

Hafa Adai!

Matua Riding Group drums up more voters. PAGE 3  
Man harboring alien child seeks no harsh sentence. PAGE 9

75¢

# Saipan Tribune

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 223

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2016

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## US-Japan exercise heightens bilateral integration

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

**NORTH FIELD, Tinian**—Two Chinook CH-47 helicopters land-

ed a little past 2pm on the Tinian North Field and more than 40 Japanese troops rapidly got off from the Boeing Rotorcraft Systems-manufactured aircraft. The drill is part

of the United States-Japan joint bilateral field training exercises held yesterday at the island's former airfield that played a key role during World War II.

The joint military exercise is called Keen Sword where approximately 40,000 U.S. and Japanese personnel were participating in the longest

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Japanese Ground Self-Defense forces get off two Chinook CH-47 helicopters used in yesterday's joint Keen Sword exercise at the Tinian North Field. More than 1,000 Japanese and U.S. troops are participating in the biennial joint bilateral exercise.

JON PEREZ



# 'Smooth election'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

**T**housands exercised their rights to suffrage in yesterday's 2016 general election, but the Commonwealth Election Commission is already preparing for voter challenges on Tinian.

The bulk of voters started trooping to polling places from 11am to 1am and from 4pm to closing time at 5pm.

With 17,930 registered voters in the CNMI, this year's midterm election—now referred to as a general election—is the second biggest in CNMI history. The 2014 general and special election for a third Saipan senatorial seat was the biggest with a record-breaking 17,986 regis-

A woman in a wheelchair occupies one of the polling booths at the Multi-Purpose Building of Kagman Elementary School yesterday.

ROSELYN MONROYO



» **CEC prepares for voter challenges on Tinian**

tered voters. It's not clear yet whether this year's turnout is high or low.

As of press time, tabulation of votes was still ongoing at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The local elections coincided with the U.S. Presidential elections pitting Democratic Party standard bearer Hillary Clinton against the

See SMOOTH on Page 4

## REPORTERS' NOTES

### Young and old voters troop to polling places

By SAIPAN TRIBUNE STAFF REPORTERS  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

■ Seventy-five-year-old Tito Bansil cast his vote at the GTC Elementary School (Precinct 4B) and was accompanied by son, Robert Bansil, and daughter-in-law Irene Babauta. Though he has difficulty walking and has hearing problems, Tito Bansil said he still decided to vote (an has been doing it since he turned 18) and

hopes the winning candidates will go out more in the community to find out how they can help people in their precincts, especially the elderly population. (Roselyn Monroyo)

■ Naturalized U.S. citizens were excited to cast their first vote. Matilde Orcasitas, owner of Matt's Barbecue, said it was her and her husband's first time to vote in the CNMI. Orcasitas, 57, they

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## INSIDE



### NATION

Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump close out a wildly unpredictable White House race.

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China's top legislature intervenes in a local Hong Kong political dispute.

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### LIFE & STYLE

The evolution of Amy Adams is on view in "Arrival," and "Nocturnal."

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# Local

## Kilili plans to tackle higher education, CW issues

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
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REPORTER

Although serving the CNMI as its delegate in Congress is a privilege, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) believes he must step up his game in order to not disappoint.

"I feel privileged and humbled but at the same time I do not take the people's vote for granted. I did some campaigning throughout this season as well. This probably gives me even more reason to work harder. In the next Congress, there are things that still need fixing and things that need to be done, and I'd like to see these things get done," he said.

Sablan, who shared with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday his feelings about running unopposed in the 2016 midterm elections, plans to tackle the re-authorization of the Higher Education Act, which has been in the works for quite a while.

Sablan eyes the complete passage of the bill with the help of the CNMI's lone community college, the Northern Marianas College.

"We could now start to

work on those things that we need to negotiate on to develop a complete bill. That one, of course, is legislation that affects higher education and thus I have reached out to the Northern Marianas College and we've been having conversations," he said.

Sablan also plans to tackle the ongoing CW crisis. While recognizing the need for more workers, Sablan plans to coordinate with the Government Accountability Office to look into the minimum wage while also looking to address the CW problems in the CNMI.

"The issue of our need for third country national workers is something that, unfortunately, we continue to need. We're working with the governor. In April the Government Accountability Office will issue a report on the minimum wage but we've also asked them to look a little bit into the need for workers from [other] countries," said Sablan.

Sablan also eyes comprehensive immigration reform in order to accommodate CW workers who have remained loyal to the CNMI for decades.



Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) and his wife Andrea have their picture taken after voting at the Garapan Elementary School.

ERWIN ENCINARES

"If we could do a comprehensive immigration reform, there would be a situation where we would be able to wean ourselves from bringing new workers into the Commonwealth because we

already have people who have been here for a long time working. I want to make sure that they remain here," said Sablan.

"Not just based on that, but if the parents remain here with

their children, who we have educated and are U.S. citizens, will continue to make the CNMI their home. Those are two things that are on the top of my head. There are several others that we would have to consider," he added.

Sablan recognizes the CNMI's need for CWs, but is with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in pushing forward with using H-2 visas.

"The governor and I are in the same position that construction workers should apply for H-2 visas. Those that are here for those new projects must understand that those are temporary projects. Once these jobs are done, they should return back to their country," said Sablan.

"Unfortunately they didn't even heed the governor's call and so we need to do something because we have what we call legacy workers. People have been here for a long time. People who clean our hospitals, the nurses up there, bakers at Herman's Bakery and other bakeshops, the people who clean the hotel rooms, and the people at the front

desk [just to name a few], we still need them," he added.

Sablan thinks that slightly adjusting the fiscal year 2017 CW cap immediately will improve the situation of foreign workers and immigration situation in the CNMI.

"We need to find a way to adjust something immediately for fiscal year 2017 while we work on the larger bill of not just immigration reform but also our situation here in the CNMI in terms of CWs."

"We have a plan but I prefer to keep this plan close to my chest because I still need to reach out to some of my colleagues and educate them. I would like to say that the governor and his staff have been true partners in this and we are working together in trying to find a solution to this problem that will benefit and continue to contribute to keeping our economy moving and growing," said Sablan.

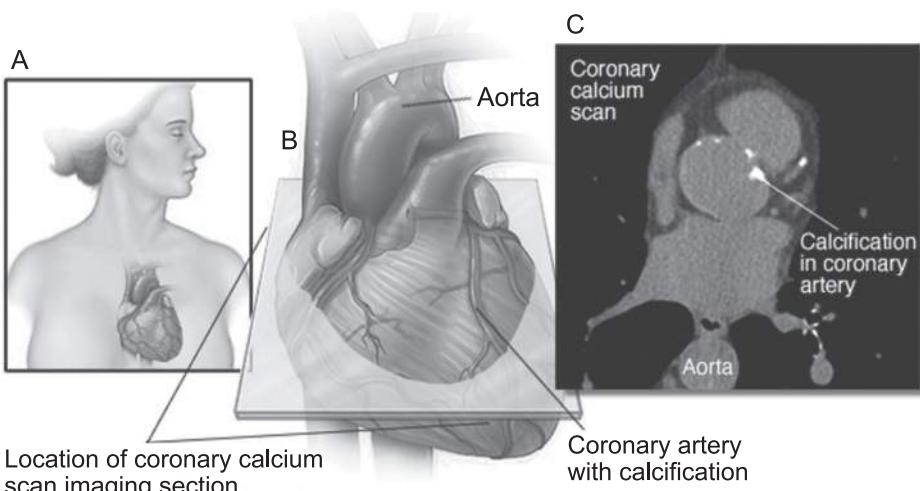
Sablan has been in office for the past four terms since 2008 and has been continuously elected for five consecutive terms, including the 2016 midterm elections.

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## Matua Riding Group drums up more voters



MICHAEL T. SANTOS

Members of the Matua Riding Group gather on their motorcycles for a group photo after several members voted at the Dandan Middle School on Nov. 8, 2016.

Members of the Matua Riding Group motored their way throughout the island yesterday as a way to encourage members and the entire community to vote in the 2016 general elections.

The motorcycle group has made it a tradition to assemble all its members who are available in order to vote in the election district that members are assigned to.

Pete DeLeon Guerrero, a member of Matua Riding Group, said, "We just want to show the community that we are exercising our right to vote, because it is an important thing. That is part of the freedom that has been given to us as citizens of Saipan, the freedom of actually having the option to choose among candidates to help govern us."

"In contrast to what others may think, we don't endorse any parties or candidates, which is why I wish them all good luck," Guerrero added.

According to Guerrero, the bike group has been making scheduled rides during election day ever since the group was first established on 2010.

"I don't know why other people are not voting. If they are not voting, they should come down over here and exercise their constitutional right because this thing is something that should not be taken for granted. It give us the opportunity to elect who we want to represent us in higher offices," Guerrero said.

A regular voter, Jon Santos, said, "When I was heading over here to vote with my fam-

ily I noticed the bike [group] come in. At first I thought they were going to do a show so it surprised me to see some members stepping off their bikes to vote inside." (Michael Santos)

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

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## SMOOTH

*From Page 1*

Republican Party's Donald Trump.

CEC chair Frances M. Sablan said the general election on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota was smooth and orderly.

"There were some issues, some concerns but they were dealt with," Sablan said.

Sablan said the CEC board discussed yesterday some voter challenges that came from the senatorial district of Tinian. "So that was one of the ones that was a little bit bigger than the other usual cases," she said.

When asked to elaborate on voter challenges, the CEC chair disclosed that there were some on Tinian who wanted to challenge the voters before they cast their votes.

"Once the votes are put into the ballots we cannot technically do anything about it because we cannot retrieve the ballots," she said.

Sablan noted that a committee would need to address those challenges. The CEC would designate a CEC staff and one of the CEC commissioners, plus the public auditor.

Sablan already designated

the CEC commissioners from both Tinian and Rota as representatives and the CEC staff to deal with the voter challenges as they come in.

"And we need to deal with it within five days after the election," she said.

Some examples of voter challenges are when some persons are not supposed to be voting, that they are not living in the CNMI.

"Another example is the dual residency, that they are voting here and voting elsewhere," Sablan said.

Sablan said voter challenges are only on Tinian because they are the ones that are a little bit sensitive because just like the senatorial district of Rota, they are the ones where each vote counts.

According to the Commonwealth Election Commission's hourly tally sheet report posted at the Gilbert Ada Gymnasium in Susupe, only 25 cast their votes during the opening hour. The number of voters started to swell by 11am with 107, 140 at 12pm, and 169 at 1pm.

This was the same trend at Dandan Elementary School and at most of the other polling sites.

GTC had 597 registered voters. Poll officials list votes

cast every hour since 7am. As of 12pm, 157 have already cast their votes. Poll officials said the morning turnout has been slow, but they expect more people to come in the afternoon once they get off from work.

Capital Hill and the Jesus Mafnas Legislative Building had 382 registered voters and 109 turned out for early voting. Yesterday, there were 76 voters as of 12pm.

Poll officials did not know the total number of registered voters for Kagman 1 and 2. As of 12pm yesterday, 229 have cast their votes for Kagman 2 (Precinct 5-2) and 241 for Kagman 1 (Precinct 5-1).

At a meeting yesterday at 2pm, the CEC board officially formulated a tabulation committee that consists of seven CEC commissioners from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"So we are now officially the tabulation committee," Sablan announced at the meeting.

The CEC board also agreed to have the absentee ballots picked up yesterday at 4pm from the U.S. Postal Office in Chalan Kanoa, opened, stamped, locked in the ballot box, and secured at Correction. The board agreed to open and process the ballot box of absentee ballots on Nov. 22.

The commissioners agreed to check if any other absentee ballots are delivered to their senatorial districts.

Sablan said the first batch to be tabulated at the Multi-Purpose Center will be the early votes. Over 5,000 cast early votes on the three islands.

CEC legal counsel Michael Witry said CEC administrative hearing officer George Lloyd Hasselback has completed hearing the cases of "dual voters" or "dual residency" and placed them under considerations.

Witry said Hasselback told him he will issue an opinion by the end of the week.

Out of 85 cases of "dual voters," only over 20 called and were heard.

Businessman Eli Buenaventura said this year's election is exciting because it's his and his wife's first time to do so.

Buenaventura, who hails from Bulacan, Philippines, came to Saipan in 1986 and he became a U.S. citizen only in December 2015.

"We want to vote for a lot of our friends, but we can only vote for a few," said Buenaventura, who was among those who voted at 12pm at Dandan Elementary School.

Assistant attorney general James Zaronas, who is one of

the poll observers from the Office of the Attorney General, was seen signaling vehicles that had campaign posters not to stop in the middle of the road near the gate of Dandan Middle School at noon.

Zaronas said vehicles with campaign posters should not stop on the road because that's illegal.

Zaronas said government lawyers are mostly observing and if they see violations, they call CEC or the police.

He said he is monitoring to ensure that political supporters stay 300 feet away from polling places.

Voters elected the delegate to the U.S. Congress, senators, House of Representatives members, municipal councilors, and Board of Education members. They also voted whether to retain on the bench or not Superior Court Associate

Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

Polling stations opened at exactly 7am and closed at 7pm.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and first lady Diann Torres voted on the last day of the early voting on Monday. Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog voted on Rota.

U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), who is unopposed in his re-election for a fifth straight term, cast his vote at Garapan Elementary School.

It was lively in front of Dandan Middle School and at Hopwood as some party supporters danced to loud music while waving to motorists and voters coming in and out of the school gates.

It was sunny, hot weather, but later in the afternoon it became cloudy. (*With Roselyn Monroyo and Michael T. Santos*)

## VOTERS

*From Page 1*

pino parents, she said that part of her vote revolved around the thoughts of the ongoing CW issue.

Just like the others, however, Manlapaz thinks that honesty is something that every politician must have in order to obtain her vote.

"This is very stereotypical, but [a politician must be] someone who doesn't lie, someone who doesn't make policies and promises that they can't keep," said Tenorio.

Tenorio was born with Filipino, Chamorro, and Japanese blood.

"I just want honesty," she added.

Kekoa Ruak, who is half-Carolinian, half-Chuukese and a first-time voter, also thinks that integrity is important.

"A lot of politicians are really corrupt. I want to see who [is] not that corrupt and heed the words, 'by the people, for the people.' I just kept that in mind and I've been going to rallies and hearing people talk about themselves. Some of them sounded really convincing, but I think the people that I voted for are pretty good people," said Ruak.

Northern Marianas College freshman and first-time voter Jason Bonachita said his parents are on the island through a CW visa. When asked if both his parents influenced his vote, he said they didn't.

"It was all me. They just told me little details about the people who are running," he said. "I didn't really read about the people who are going to support this island and how it's going to affect it, but I just voted for the ones that I basically know."

Rachelle Cunanan Manlapaz, 18, thought the voting process was easy and that the only difficulty she faced when it came to voting was that she was not too aware of all of the candidates.

Unlike the others, Manlapaz's parents influenced her vote. Being a daughter of Fili-

## YOUNG

*From Page 1*

have a lot of friends who are running in this year's election. Orcasita first arrived on Saipan in 1985. She and her husband became U.S. citizens only last December. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

■ A lawyer said he does not understand why some political supporters have to drive vehicles and make loud music or blow their horns near polling places. He also does not understand why some supporters have to make loud music in tents. The lawyer, however, praised CNMI voters because they participate in the election, unlike in the U.S. mainland. "That's positive

thing," said the lawyer, who is new to the island. It was his first time to observe election in the Commonwealth. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

■ Seventy-six-year-old Larry Norita went to the Jesus P. Mafnas Legislative Building (Precinct 4C) with his wife Rosalina. He drove to their designated precinct in his old car (not air-conditioned) past 12pm, with the hot weather and road construction work ongoing on Capital Hill. He walked to the door of the building in a cane and came out smiling after casting his vote. "It's my responsibility to vote and I've been doing in since I was 18." (*Roselyn Monroyo*)

■ First-time voter Husky Vi Dispo Cucal said he felt so weird once he was inside the polling booth at Kagman Elementary School. He has been hearing a lot from the candidates and their platforms and people he knew have been convincing him to vote for certain individuals so it was very difficult for him to decide. In the end, he chose the candidates who value education more, as he believes young people like

problem) insisted on personally going to the polling booth at the Kagman Elementary School and casting her vote. A police officer earlier told the women that she can stay in the car and the ballot will be brought to her. (*Roselyn Monroyo*)

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himself needs someone who will make sure that students get opportunities to learn and attain higher education. (*Roselyn Monroyo*)

■ At 9:15am several different parties already set up tents to wave at oncoming traffic at Dandan Middle School. However, some were still kind of settling in and people were still gathering in their respective tents. (*Michael T. Santos*)

■ By 10am people were getting more rambunctious as more supporters arrived and settled in to greet oncoming cars and potential voters in Dandan Middle School. (*Michael T. Santos*)

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## US-JAPAN

*From Page 1*

bilateral field training where separate drills were also held in Guam, Japanese waters, and the Philippine Sea.

Keen Sword is one of the longest running bilateral field training exercise that began in 1986 between the U.S. military and the 150,000-strong Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force that aims to further strengthen the combat readiness and cooperation of both sides.

Keen Sword, the largest and the latest of a series of exercises, began on Nov. 4 on

Tinian and ends today but the training would go on until Jan. 12, 2017.

Rear Adm. Marc Dalton, Task Force 76, and Brig. Gen. John Jansen of Task Force 79 from the U.S. 7th Fleet stationed in Okinawa, Japan led the U.S. troops on Tinian, with Adm. Katsutoshi Kawano heading the Japan side.

Dalton said the U.S. Navy and maritime task forces have been working with the JGSDF on amphibious and aircraft landing tactics in the joint exercise. The USS *Comstock*, a Whidbey Island-class dock landing ship of the U.S. Navy and the 11th Marine Expeditionary

Unit, is also participating.

"This exercise is planned and executed by the Japanese. [The U.S. military] is participating in the operations as part of the command staff. We are participating in the operations to train both in the Okinawa, Guam, and CNMI areas," said Dalton.

Japan sent their flagship J.S. *Hyūga* helicopter destroyer and the Ōsumi-class landing ship from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force. Both Chinook helicopters took off from *Hyūga*, which is the first Japanese ship where an American multi-mission MV-22 Osprey landed in the Dawn Blitz exercise in 2013.

Maj. Kensaku Mizuseki said that about 1,300 Japanese forces took part in the exercise on Tinian where an amphibious landing was originally planned at 2am yesterday.

"The *Hyūga* is also a transport ship and together with the Ōsumi had been in the service of the Japanese navy. The two Chinook helicopters flew to and from *Hyūga*, a helicopter landing ship. There are also CH-47 Apache helicopters which are also part of the exercise."

Lt. Tim Gorman of the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office, however, said the amphibious exercise was called off due to bad weather.

Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

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## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-RFP-17-006

#### MAUI SHAFT WELLS REHABILITATION PROJECT, SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to develop the method and perform the construction work to remove the cave in soil material in the Maui 4 Shaft Well tunnel and rehabilitate the existing buildings, platforms, shaft, electrical components, elevator system and all other items listed in the scope of work for the Maui 1 and 4 shaft wells. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is 375 calendar days from date of award.

This project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from the above mentioned funding agencies.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on November 8, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST). Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Maui Shaft Wells facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-17-006 - Maui Shaft Wells Rehabilitation Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than November 29, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST). Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discuss and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on November 10, 2016 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Water-Wastewater Jr. Engineer via email address [yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org](mailto:yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org) and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address [Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAM  
Purchasing Officer



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-17-008

#### BULK CHLORINE STORAGE FACILITY

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the construction of a facility for the bulk storage of the CUC's chlorine supply in Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of a building and site improvements to adequately store and secure chlorine gas cylinders, including all appurtenances and features necessary to comply with applicable standards, regulations and codes. The storage facility includes a chlorine storage area, an operator area to store personal protective equipment and an electrical/mechanical room, emergency showers, eye washing stations, chlorine gas scrubber equipment, ventilation system, fire protection, alarm systems and emergency power.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in 270 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Justen Landan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on November 3, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-17-008, Bulk Chlorine Storage Facility Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on November 21, 2016, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

All responses to this Invitation for should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on November 7, 2016 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to John Riegel, Water/Wastewater Chief Engineer via email address [john.riegel@cucgov.org](mailto:john.riegel@cucgov.org) and Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address [marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAM, Jr.  
Purchasing Officer

## High surf to subside this evening

Based on information received from the National Weather Service in Tyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, a large long period north swell from the distant remnants of former Typhoon Meari will cause hazardous surf along north-facing reefs today, Wednesday.

A high surf advisory is now in effect until 6pm Wednesday. Waves and surf of 5 to 7 feet will increase overnight to between 8 and 10 feet by early Wednesday morning.

A north swell will peak Wednesday morning, then surf will gradually begin to

fall Wednesday afternoon and could fall below hazardous levels by this evening.

The EOC is advising the general public and mariners to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches especially those facing north as rip currents will be life threatening. (EOC)

## New NEH grant program extended to the CNMI

**WASHINGTON**—The National Endowment for the Humanities announced yesterday the Creating Humanities Communities, a new grant that supports grassroots humanities programs by encouraging partnerships and collaborations between multiple institutions or organizations in a town, county, region, or area.

NEH hopes the relationships built and strengthened through Creating Humanities Communities will lead to increases and improvements in humanities infrastructure for years to come, even beyond the initial activities funded by these grants.

"All Americans, no matter where they live, should be able to benefit from the power of the humanities," said NEH chair William D. Adams. "Through this new grant program, the National Endowment for the Humanities will stimulate the humanities in communities that have received less support in the past. The Endowment is particularly reaching out to Native American groups and tribal governments with this

new grant."

Creating Humanities Communities grants are available only to states and territories designated as "incentive areas." These are the 20 states and five territories that received the least funding through competitively awarded NEH grants in the previous fiscal year. This year's incentive areas are: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Institutions and organizations from incentive areas may apply for matching grants of \$30,000, \$60,000, \$90,000 or \$150,000 over three years. Each \$1 of NEH grant support awarded must be matched by \$1 in non-federal third-party funds.

"This grant is a great opportunity for small organizations to join forces and create new projects that will benefit communities in a significant way. NEH staff is eager to talk to

prospective applicants at every stage in the process. Call us, write to us, we're here to help you," urged Katja Zeljajd, director of the Office of Challenge Grants.

The Office of Challenge Grants program staff can be reached at 202-606-8309 and challenge@neh.gov. The application deadline for the inaugural round of grants is Feb. 15, 2017. Office hours to discuss applications are from 1pm to 3pm EST on Jan. 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, and Feb. 7, 8, and 9, 2017, and applicants who would like staff to review their applications in advance must submit drafts by Jan. 16, 2017.

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at: [www.neh.gov](http://www.neh.gov). (NEH)



**STARTING 'EM YOUNG**

Children hold the placards of candidates to greet voters heading to the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School yesterday.

ROSELYN B. MONROY

# Free stuff at NMC's Cash for College on Nov. 19

## Triple J donates to 'Black Tie & Zories' fundraiser



Triple J Saipan donates \$1,000 and a Samsung 48" LED TV for the Make A Wish "Black Tie & Zories" Wish Night fundraiser raffle.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Triple J Saipan donated \$1,000 and a Samsung 48-inch LED TV for a raffle prize to the Make-A-Wish "Black Tie & Zories" Wish Night fundraiser. The fundraiser will happen on Thursday, Nov. 10, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

This marks the fourth CNMI Make-A-Wish event,

with past events raising nearly \$35,000 for Wish kids living in the CNMI.

"It really means so much for us as a company to support Make-A-Wish. It's such a wonderful foundation that does so much good for our children," said Frank Ada, director of Human Resources

at Triple J.

The Make A Wish Foundation grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. The CNMI chapter has served the islands of the CNMI for 28 years. (PR)

The Northern Marianas College is reminding students and members of the community about the free "Cash for College" workshop that will be held on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2016. The workshop will also be held on Tinian and Rota on Dec. 3, 2016. The event aims to help students and their parents maximize scholarship opportunities that are available to students seeking to obtain a college education.

The free workshop on Saipan will be held in Building A at the NMC As Terlaje campus. The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by anytime between 9am and 12pm.

At the workshops, participants will be provided with personal, step-by-step assis-

tance in completing college financial aid forms, focusing especially on forms for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, CNMI Scholarship, Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance, and the TEACH Grant. Workshop participants can also have their financial aid documents notarized and photocopied, all without any charges or fees.

Staff members from the college's Office of Admissions and Records will also be present to provide information and assistance with the NMC admission application process.

In addition, those who participate in the workshop will qualify to have their NMC application fee and placement test fees waived for the upcoming spring 2017 semester.

This waiver represents a savings of up to \$75.

Although not required, it is recommended that workshop participants bring a valid form of identification (e.g., a valid passport, birth certificate, or green card), three official transcripts, signed 2015 1040 tax form (2015 W-2 statements if you and/or your parents did not or will not file taxes), and/or proof of CNMI residency for 2014 and 2015 (for example, CNMI 1040 tax form, employment verification from your employer, official transcripts, voters certification, etc.).

For additional information, contact the NMC Financial Aid Office at (670) 237-6792 or email daisy.propst@marianas.edu. (NMC)

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Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Best Time & Number for Express Financial to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Time To Call \_\_\_\_\_ Best Number To Call \_\_\_\_\_

**Secondary Applicant**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Best Time & Number for Express Financial to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Time To Call \_\_\_\_\_ Best Number To Call \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Reporting human rights statistics in the Pacific

**NADI, Fiji**—A practical guide for using statistics to report on Pacific Island countries' progress with implementing international human rights treaties is due to be finalized this week.

Government representatives from 10 Pacific countries are participating in a regional consultation that began yesterday in Nadi, Fiji, aimed at validating a draft *Pacific Statistical*

*Guidebook to Human Rights Reporting* that has been put together by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

Relevant statistics on civil and political rights, and for economic, social and cultural rights, will be tested by the participants during the three-day workshop (Nov. 8-10) to validate a core set of statistical indicators which could be used across a range of human

rights reports.

Organized by SPC through its Regional Rights Resource Team, the consultation is supported by the European Union and the Australian government.

The countries taking part in the consultation are Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. (SPC)



### ANNUAL TRADITION

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. extended its assistance to the Team Sufa Softball Association's quest to participate and win the 2016 Labor Day tournament in Las Vegas, an annual tradition for CNMI residents in the mainland to gather together. Yesterday, BSI's executive director for Corporate Social Responsibility Geralyn Dela Cruz presented the company's sponsorship donation of \$1,500 to Jovita Flores, Tom Camacho, and Edward Flores—officers of Sufa Softball Association.

BSI-CSR PHOTO



### THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Thirty-four staff of Best Sunshine International, Ltd. volunteered during Rotary Club of Saipan's Las Vegas night over the weekend. The event produced the biggest ticket sales and crowd in recent years, and the organizers thanked BSI for its volunteer work that contributed to the event's overall success.

IPI/BSI PHOTO



**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
Office of the Executive Director



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-17-011

#### SUPPLY OF FUEL FOR LIGHT VEHICLE AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified vendors for the supply of fuel for light vehicles and heavy equipment for CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-work will be emailed to all registered prospective proposers email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

**One (1) original and four (4) hard copies**, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-17-011 -Supply of Fuel for Light Vehicle and Heavy Equipment" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 5, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 18, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to John Mafnas, CUC Contract Administrator via email address [john.mafnas@cucgov.org](mailto:john.mafnas@cucgov.org) and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address [Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**  
Acting Executive Director

**MANNY B. SABLAN**  
Purchasing Administrator

**Northern Marianas Humanities Council**  
*Navigating the Human Experience*



### Vacancy Announcement Board of Directors Northern Marianas Humanities Council

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council (Council) wishes to announce two vacancies on its board of directors.

The Council is a non-profit private corporation affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council's mission is to "foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of the humanities through support of educational programs that relate the humanities to the indigenous cultures and to the intellectual needs and interests of the people of the Commonwealth."

The Council's board is comprised of thirteen volunteer members who serve three year terms. The Council strives to maintain a board that reflects a broad cross section of our CNMI community. The ideal candidate will have a strong desire to promote the Council's mission, programs, and activities and to actively participate in fundraising activities. Board responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Attending regular Council meetings four times annually;
- Raising funds for Council programs;
- Recruiting community partners;
- Promoting awareness about the Council's mission and its programs in the community;
- Attending Council programs and activities;
- Participating in working committee meetings;
- Evaluating Council programs and activities;
- Reviewing grant applications;
- Providing input about the humanities from various community members, and
- Attending conferences, workshops and other meetings on behalf of the Council.

Applicants are invited to submit their letters of interest and resumes to **Frankie M. Eliptico, Chair, Northern Marianas Humanities Council at Post Office Box 506437 Saipan, MP 96950** or delivered to the Council's office located in the Springs Plaza Building in Gualo Rai, Saipan. All letters of interest and resumes must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, 30 November 2016**. For additional information, please contact the Council's Executive Director, Scott Russell, at telephone 235-4785 or visit the Council's website at [www.northernmarianashumanities.org](http://www.northernmarianashumanities.org).

## Man harboring alien child seeks no harsh sentence

Francisco Muna Tydingco is asking the federal court for a lighter sentence after being convicted of aiding and abetting his wife in harboring an illegal minor.

Tydingco, through counsel Steven P. Pixley, said he should get a sentence at the low end of the sentencing guideline.

Pixley said that Francisco Tydingco and his wife, Lili, traveled to China with their two children in September 2013. While

there, Lili met with Zongkuan Ni who wanted his child to attend school in the United States. Pixley said Ni had previously lived in the CNMI.

On Sept. 26, 2013, the Tydingco family returned to Saipan, this time accompanied by Ni's child, who was 10 years old at that time.

Pixley said Tydingco completed the requisite CNMI Customs Form in which he listed Ni's child on the form as

## Holiday bazaar on Dec. 4

The annual Brilliant Star School Holiday Bazaar will be held Sunday, Dec. 4, from 9am to 4pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The event is an opportunity for artists and other vendors to showcase their arts, and for residents and visitors to get an early start on buying unique and beautiful gifts for the holidays.

"We're looking forward to another year of showcasing our island's arts, crafts and gifts. We still have a couple of tables available for any interested artists or vendors," said Richard Sikkel, one of the event organizers. Interested vendors may contact the school at 323-STAR (323-7827).

The holiday bazaar is like a mini Flame Tree Arts Festival

with air-conditioning. In the past, shoppers have commented on the convenience and comfort of finding such a variety of island gifts in a single place ahead of the holidays.

For parents who would like to have a little alone shopping time, the event features an arts and crafts area for children.

The daylong event is also graced by performances throughout the day by various community cultural and arts groups. There will also be raffles. Raffle prizes have been donated by island businesses and vendors.

"We look forward to welcoming the community, once again, to this wonderful event which opens the holiday season on Saipan," said Sikkel. (PR)

a Chinese national.

Pixley said Tydingco was not interviewed by immigration officials at the Saipan airport, while Lili was selected for additional screening, together with Ni's child.

The lawyer said outside of the presence of Tydingo, Ni's child was paroled into the CNMI until Nov. 4, 2013, under the Visa Waiver Program.

Pixley said Homeland Security Investigations Task Force officer Jesse Dubrall testified at the trial that he established that the child was an alien and that she had overstayed her entry into the CNMI.

Pixley said during cross-examination, Dubrall admitted that the U.S. had no evidence suggesting that Tydingco had done anything to hide the

whereabouts of the child from immigration authorities.

Pixley pointed out that Dubrall further testified that Lili had a document prepared in China and signed by the child's parents authorizing the Tydingco couple to serve as the child's guardians.

The lawyer said Tydingco does not agree that the application of the 2016 sentencing guidelines would necessarily result in a harsher sentence.

Indeed, Pixley said, if Tydingco can demonstrate that he was the "legal guardian" of the child, then there would be no enhancement under the 2016 sentencing guidelines.

Pixley said the amended sentencing guidelines contain no definition of the term "legal guardian."

Elsewhere however, Pixley said, federal law defines "legal guardian."

Pixley said these definitions typically contemplate that a legal guardian will have custody of and/or will exercise control over his or her ward.

He said it is clear that the Sentencing Commission was concerned about "unaccompanied" minors being "smuggled" into the U.S.

In this case, Pixley said, the evidence supports a finding that the child lawfully entered the U.S. accompanied by two adults in possession of documents executed by the child's parents designating the Tydingco couple as guardians.

Moreover, Pixley said, Tydingco took no action to hide the child.

Last June, a federal jury found the Tydingco couple guilty of one count of harboring an alien.

ing an alien.

The offense carries a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment.

The indictment charged the Tydingcos with two counts of harboring illegal alien. The prosecution, however, dismissed one count pertaining to the child's uncle after the government completed calling its witnesses during the trial.

According to Homeland Security Investigations Task Force officer Dubrall, the child's purported uncle, Rongxue Liu, stated in an interview that he paid \$7,000 in exchange for helping him enter into a fake marriage and obtain a green card.

Dubrall said the parents of the child admitted that they agreed to pay Lili between \$15,000 and \$20,000 to take their child to Saipan and get her a green card. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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*Kilili*

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

Paid for by Kilili for Congress

# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 223

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

Here's what  
I'm going to do  
Wednesday morning

By RALPH STRANGIS

The Dallas Morning News

Ralph Strangis is a writer, actor and motivational speaker in Dallas. He wrote this for the Dallas Morning News.



The dumpster fire that is this campaign cycle, infused by daily or hourly bursts of fresh oxygen and seemingly unending scores of willing combatants armed with drums of kerosene and cords of fresh kindling, will finally be extinguished Tuesday night.

There may be more surprises to be sure, but now it appears a more competitive race than a week ago. So it's a good time for me to tell you what I'm going to do first thing on Wednesday.

I'm going to go to the Internet and call up the most flattering photo I can find of our new president-elect. I'm going to look deeply at the image and I'm going to say aloud:

"Congratulations Mr. or Madame President. You're my president and I'm going to support you. I'm not going to bad mouth you on what you've said and done already. I'm not going to fight with my friends about you."

"I'm giving you a clean slate."

Yep—I'm putting away the matches and clearing my browser and wiping my mind as best I can, and I'm moving on.

The evidence has been entered, nothing has been stricken, the issues have been litigated, and the jury has reached a verdict. The people have spoken. And I'm cool with that.

I look at this way: Each side has accused the other of improprieties, legal wrongdoings and moral transgressions, errors in judgment, questionable associates, sloppiness, bad form and plain outright lying. And on and on and on.

And we can go look at all of it, interpret it, and give each piece of it our own measure of appropriate weight. And then we reach our own verdicts.

This election is a trial of two, the country is the jury room, and the people are the largest, most diverse jury ever assembled. Like members of any jury, some made up their minds before opening statements, some were swayed along the way, and some still don't know. But with virtually unlimited assets on either side it's unlikely that there exists even a tiny pebble in a remote forest not unturned for our examination. Everything has been asked and answered and asked and answered.

We have all we need and then some to reach a verdict, and for me that's the end of it. No need to have another trial or assemble another jury. I can't see that 12 people in a box would get it more right or more wrong than we will.

Nope, these two get us as their jury—all of us. They deserve it. They've sequestered us for months and now they're going to abide by our verdict.

And so will I.

But fear not dear friends, scraps of paper and dry brush are right over the next hill, and we've got no shortage of matches.



## If voting is sacred, early voting must go

Let's work backward.

Less than a week before the election, the Wall Street Journal and Fox News' Bret Baier reported that the Clinton Foundation has been under investigation for "pay-for-play" allegations for over a year—and that the Department of Justice may have been trying to monkey-wrench the effort.

Eleven days before the election, FBI Director James Comey announced that he was reopening the inquiry into Hillary Clinton's emails. A few days before that, WikiLeaks dropped a bombshell of a hacked memo showing the full extent of "Clinton Inc."—the tawdry, tacky and some would argue criminal web of for-profit, nonprofit and political entities that make up the Clinton empire. A couple weeks before that, NBC News released a tape of Donald Trump describing how he likes to sexually assault women. Since then, nearly a dozen women have come forward describing treatment that closely tracks the behavior Trump himself described in an unguarded moment.

Those are just the highlights.

Both candidates have also made controversial statements about their policies and philosophies. In the third debate, Clinton refused to support any limitations on even late-term abortions. She also claimed that the longtime gun ban in Washington, D.C., ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in the Heller decision, was really just an effort to keep toddlers from getting their hands on guns.

And Trump? Well, let's just say he's said a lot of things.

And you know what else happened during all of this? People have been voting. A lot.

Early-voting start times vary by state and often by county. In Minnesota, people started casting ballots in September. In Ohio, voting began just five days after the "Access Hollywood" tape surfaced, three days after the second presidential debate and a week before the final debate. As of this writing, more than 22 million people have voted already. In all, an estimated 40 percent of voters will cast ballots before Election Day.

And that's nuts.

Before you rush to the safety of the usual argument, let me admit that, of course, some early and absentee voting is necessary. Obviously, overseas military personnel and voters with certain disabilities should be accommodated. But defending their right to vote absentee is not a defense of mass-scale early voting.

The standard argument against widespread early voting is that it encourages many people to make their decisions without important information available to the voters who wait until Elec-

By JONAH GOLDBERG

Tribune News Service

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tion Day. That's really not debatable, so early-voting supporters concede the point and then say it just doesn't matter. They note that the people most likely to cast early votes are committed partisans, immune to new facts and information. There's surely some truth to that, but as the scale of early voting increases with each year, it must also be less and less true every year. Also, one might wonder why people who decry the rise of ideological polarization and partisanship are so eager to make it easier for hardcore partisans to vote.

Comey's bombshell is a perfect illustration of how new facts can make a hash of things. Trump is imploring people who've already cast their votes for Clinton to remedy their "buyer's remorse" and switch to Trump—which is legal in six states. The problem is worse in the primaries. Voters often cast early ballots for candidates who drop out before Election Day. That's real voter suppression.

But my main problem with early voting is different. Every day we hear pious actors, activists and politicians talk about the solemn and sacred duty to vote, and yet everyone wants to make voting easier and more convenient. Many still dream of the most cockamamie idea of all: online voting, so we can make choosing presidents as easy as buying socks on Amazon.

This gets human nature exactly backward. Nothing truly important, never mind sacred and solemn, should be treated as a trivial convenience. Churches that ask more of the faithful do better at attracting and retaining congregants. The Marines get the best and most committed recruits because they have higher standards. Elite schools demand more from students and get more as a result. No wonder one study found that early voting actually lowers turnout because it makes Election Day seem like a less special event.

Of course we shouldn't put up any insurmountable obstacles to voting. But if we want citizens to value their vote, why are we constantly lowering the price?

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## Lehislatura: Eleksion 2016

**K**asi esta oppan haye suette pat dimalas gi eleksion lehislatura yan otru puestu siha na biahen eleksion. Maseha haf' na fina' estrakada siempre guaha man-gana yan mapedi, kulan ha'ane yan pueñge.

Enfin monhayan i mamakatfia gi todū animum kandidatu man-aligau ayudu gineng botadot. Kau felis hinanaumu gaige en-nau solu gi sentimentun botadot. Guiya i yabin ditetminasion futtunana kada kandidatu.

Yangin felis kareramu, pues tutuhun umoppe sinsiyu yan sat-tun haf' na un' hatme offisiun mamatinas areglun asuntun lina-hyan. Todu kareramu siempre u ineblua ni publiku desde primet ha'ane 'nai manhula' hau.

Este na eleksion lokue' kulan pesadot haf' para umasusedi gi 2018 na estrakadan eleksion gubietnu. I republican siempre u matompu' ni mapi' pisun gima'ña. I democrats anchu na plaset ya debi u atan taimanu para u rikohe tautauña.

I republicans mas lokue' u inaminasa gi asuntun linahyan piot ya taya' ayuduña umadelanta fuetsan monedan familia. Ap-mam na diskuidu 'nai los uttimu hana' fan mamadesi publiku sin presisu! Maliñgu i interes publiku ya mas ma-akudi interes petsonat! Mampus este na sentimentu oppan gi pachot i tautau siha gi señgsoñg.

### Sin Planu, Abarambau

Maseha manu na nacion, finenina ma-asegura na mapega i kandet, hanum, atbañat (sewer) chalan yan puettun aire yan tasi. Estague' muna' inos halum fiñkas yan cho'chu' para i tautau tanu'. Kinem-bida otru kometsiante siha manhalum gi ma-adelantana i lugat.

I hinallum fiñkas yan cho'chu' homlu' para i tautau. Mas megai aduana (taxes) para setbisun publiku yan fitme na offisiu para padre de familia siha. Nina'e kampu i familia man-la'la' 'nai guaha cho'chu' para u katsu ha'nen niha.

Sumen fatus este na patte gi kinalamten tano'ta pot mofona halum mahatsan fasilitat siha sin ma-asegura na linañgag ni gaige na kandet, hanum, yan atbañat. Umatotpi nesessidat i nuebu na fasilitat kometsiante yan komunida gi oriyaña. Siempre u acha famadesi gi karera mona.

Anog i taya' menhalom na kabisiyu gi hegsu' I Deni'. Mas siempre este na diskuidu hana' fan mamadesi i tautau siha gi

## Facebook bubble turns us all into crazy Uncle Harry

**W**hen Hillary Clinton clinched the Democratic nomination in June, one of my Facebook friends posted that, in the name of history and feminism, it behooved us to admit Hillary's greatness and get behind the first female presidential nominee from a major party.

I wanted to reply: "Would you be saying this if Sarah Palin were nominated? Would that be a great day for women and feminism?"

I wanted to reply: "Is this the same Hillary Clinton who was against gay marriage until most of the country wasn't? Whose surrogates tried to tell millennial women they weren't feminists if they supported Bernie? Who last spring credited Nancy Reagan for raising awareness of AIDS in the '80s?"

"Do you realize," I wanted to reply, "you're talking about the most corporately entangled, secretive and scripted candidate we've ever seen?"

But I didn't.

It's now November and I still haven't taken the bait of engaging in politics on Facebook. As problematic as Clinton is, she pales beside the galloping disaster of Donald Trump. Posting about him would be like shooting fish in a barrel. But I think I can make it through Tuesday.

The friend who anointed Clinton a saint is intelligent, a writer, but Facebook makes us all stupid. Political exchanges on that site prove to be as regrettable as when you got into it last Thanksgiving with that relative Barack Obama calls your Uncle Harry—"you still love him, but you don't want to put him in charge of stuff." Facebook is a daily, and even more chaotic, Thanksgiving table.

That crazy uncle can be any clown trolling from nowhere.

More likely, though, the one having a political upheaval will be one of your "friends," a friend who became a friend due to a random Facebook feed that isn't random. Facebook employs a "trending" algorithm that gauges our political leanings based on a slew of demographics, along with what we "like" and repot. It

señgsoñg. Finañagu geran hanum yan kandet!

Dimas de u kombida halum otru siha dañkulu na fiñkas, chinea' sa' mali'e na ti suffisiente nesessidat hanum, kandet yan atbañat gi propiu yan oriyen i lugat. Man-maliñgu hit fondu yan cho'chu' gi hilu' este na diskuidu.

### Che`chu` Achibau

Esta pot kuarenta años desde ke ta gobietnan maisa hit. Ti todū finaposta felis. Guaha siha na katsada 'nai mapua sahyan-ta. Hu chagi kumekomprende i che'chu' guloso 'nai nina' fan bachet i kabisiyu ni dichu obligasion niha.

Maseha todū-yu' kahaga', sinparat sige hu husga haf' na guaha este siha na chinatsaga kontra i publiku. Hu soda' na pot ambenteria yan hinassun mantai achaigua ayu mina mahasñgune che'chu' achibau kontra i publiku'. Lau ha sedi hit i saina disision 'nai mana' fañhuha i umisague hit. Man-madispacha ginen siyan niha sin ditension. Estague' 'nai umentalu' proteksion ginen hilu'.

Poresu na yangin para un' atog gi hagas bisiomu man-usa otru pot para un' latga buchimu, mauleña un' sugu' gi humiddi na patte gi korasonmu puede guaha satbasior antes de un' destro-sian maisa hau. Mahasñguni na che'chu' achibau tatnai felis ut-timoña. Atan maisa hau kau ti magahet.

### Bokan Togpuñg

Un' seriosu na asuntu pot linedu' natibu 'nai inipus minakatña. Pot ihemplu, i linea'hu ennau i sinku pe onsi pot gadas 'sino 5' 11". I minakathu debi u saga gi 180 libras.

Presisu na ta adahe este sa' gigon ta upus, ta tutuhun lokue' otru chinatsaga tat kumu tatkilu' haga' ni piligrosu kontra hinemlo'ta. Yangin man-diskuidau hit pues hita mismu sumedi otru pinadesi tat kumu machuda' haga titanosta (stroke) sino heart attack.

Siña un' ayudan maisa hau. Tutuhun gi midision kinano' mu. Muñga ma-ambientuyi i sentadamu. Cho'chu regulatmiente 'nai sisienta pot sientu un' saguani estomagumu. Na guaha regulat na eksisiu kada semana.

Todu inipus ti mauleg para hagu. Kontodu maneska, chupa yan mama' mauleg unna' para enseñas. Kontra este siha na bisiu gi



uses that information to keep us each in an echo chamber of like opinion, thereby magnetizing users to its website.

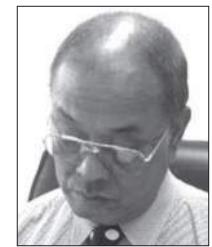
This eerily mirrors the self-congratulatory cultures of Fox News and MSNBC, not to mention the various factions in Congress, hopelessly tone-deaf to the nation outside the Beltway.

The friends we have in our actual lives are not quite themselves online, especially when they encounter a fundamental difference of opinion in their Facebook bubble—maybe from you. When they zealously link you to this video or that news report, in an attempt to get you to "open your mind," you might retaliate with a link to this documentary, or that quip, which is sure to irritate them, and the negativity escalates from there. I know a woman contemplating cutting off her entire family, all because of pro-Trump Facebook posts.

But what I bristle at most—and where my political restraint on Facebook comes from—is the idea of telling other people how to vote. That's just disrespectful. Our right to vote for whom we want, as well as our right not to disclose that, is

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.*

estomagumu, gofis, yan pachotmu. Hagu kapitan hinemlo' mu. Hagu solu siña dumisponi homlu' na linala'.

### Maestron Kuttura

Guaha siha man-manombra "maestron" kuttura. Ti klaru haf' tinatten niha yan kau magahet na gai koneksion i mafafama yan estorian guelu antes. Lamegi sineada'hu puru finatinas niha mis-mu ni mapega kumu kutturan natibu. Dios mihi!

Kontodu tinayuyot natibu esta guaha. Na ti magahet na gaige kalaberan man-antigu gi halum apusentun familia? Na ti matrata kumu rektu na espiritu ennau na kalabera siha gi halum natibu? Na ti konsiste na siempre i tinayuyot halum gima' familia?

Gi halum rimulinun tinagu' Espanol para umapunu' i liñguahé magahet na gai kampu i natibu kumanta a'gañ gi fina' inetnun? Gi halum este na kondision na ti siempre kontodu kantan Chamorro mana' silensiú gi halum natibu?

Diberas esta namanman i puru nuebu na mafabrikan kuttura ni sen tai tinatte yan finapus mañaina-ta gi antigü na tiempu. Sin uma-ebalua mauleg, makubre kumu kuttura.

Ilegña unu na maestro na i tinayuyot CHamoru ha soda' 'nai lumiliku'-gue' gi enteru Pasifiku. Adahe sa' mattuyu' gi todū atmos bandan tasin Pasifiku ya ti hu soda' sinida' mu pindehu! Pot fabot muñga i dinagi! Nana'lu matatpañgemu kumu maestron kuttura ya un' admiti na finatinasmi u fattá sin tinatten estorian antigü.

Ti huegu i kuttura yan tradision Chamorro. Ti pot lagsi' ma-kometsiú kadu' kuttura para in' atrebi hamyu uminsima haf' ti kuttura. Pot fabot.

Mattu gi abarambau hinanau-ta gi bandan kuttura hombre hu hahassu kau filan food stamps mas asegurau kumu nuebu na kutturan natibu.

**By DIANA GOETSCH**

The Philadelphia Inquirer



*Diana Goetsch is a writer in New York. She wrote this for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may email her at diana@janestreet.org.*

sacred. "What makes you think you can tell me who to vote for?" I say on the phone to any number of campaign volunteers each election season.

In 2004, I volunteered for the Kerry campaign in the predominantly black districts in Duval County, Fla., where tens of thousands of votes were thrown out four years before. I rented a van at the Jacksonville airport and showed up at Kerry headquarters. When they asked me to work the phones, and I declined, the other volunteers gawked in puzzlement.

"What are you doing here," said one, a retired New York lawyer, "if you're not trying to get people to vote for Kerry?" I used that van to drive people to the polls. Most of my passengers were elderly black women. After they voted, I took them for a free meal at a nearby church, then drove them home. I never asked about their politics, though on one occasion I overheard this exchange in the backseat:

"Who'd you vote for, Betty?"

"Don't matter who I vote for, God's gonna win."

What if we had the kind of respect for one another that Betty has for God? And what if we showed that respect by not trying to tell one another whom to vote for? Good information about the candidates is crucial, and I'm all for good dialogue, but that's not what Facebook is about.

Facebook is more about "liking," "unfriending," and clicking away inside our bubble—which is turning us all into crazy Uncle Harry.

# The Weather

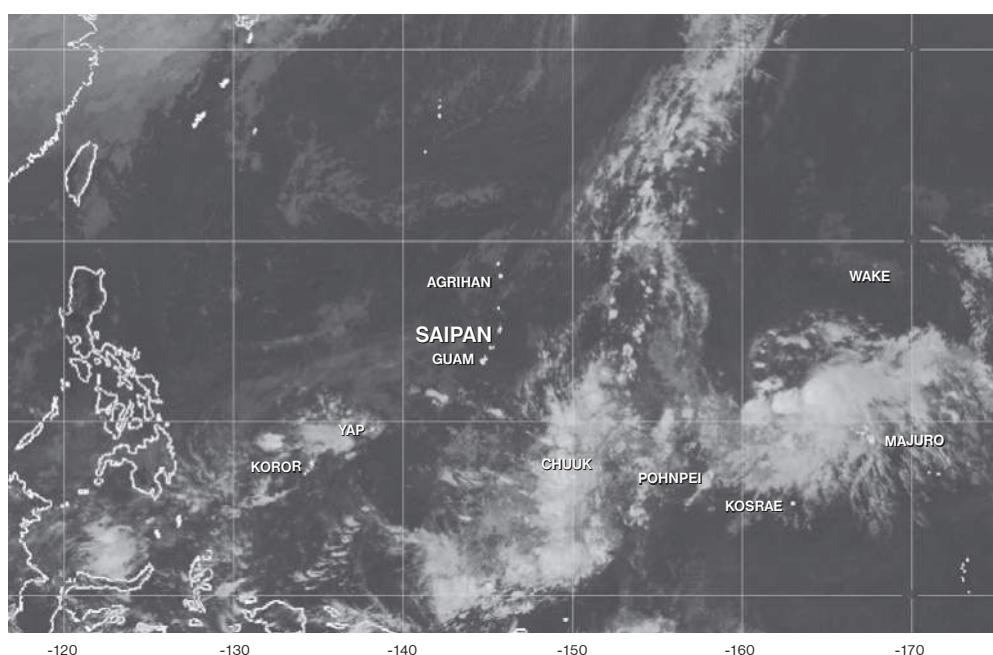
## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. North wind 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.

▲ 88°	▼ 79°	▲ 89°	▼ 79°	▲ 88°	▼ 79°	▲ 89°	▼ 79°
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## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



## PICTURE TIME: 6:06 AM, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak surface trough stretches across the local area northwest of Saipan. This trough will progress southward. Northwest winds will prevail today turning to the north tonight. The north winds will persist through Wednesday before turning to the northeast on Thursday. The winds will be light today and Wednesday. Daytime heating combined with the light winds will probably produce some clouds and showers at times...especially over Guam today and Wednesday but since deep layer moisture will be lacking thunderstorms are not expected. A surface trough continues to linger over Chuuk State. Converging low-level winds near its axis will keep sporadic convection near Chuuk for the next couple of days.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Mostly cloudy	78 / 87 °F
Palau	Mostly cloudy	82 / 87 °F
Yap	Partly sunny	80 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Mostly cloudy	75 / 85 °F
Pohnpei	Morning clouds	77 / 85 °F
Kosrae	Morning clouds	83 / 87 °F
Majuro	Partly cloudy	80 / 85 °F

## TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY

1:27 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.41 Feet
8:22 AM	LOW TIDE	0.24 Feet
3:29 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.89 Feet
9:54 PM	LOW TIDE	0.83 Feet

## SUNRISE / SUNSET

Today	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Thursday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:18 AM	5:45 PM

## MOONRISE / MOONSET

Today	1:33 PM	12:42 AM
Thursday	2:19 PM	1:37 AM
Friday	3:06 PM	2:34 AM
Saturday	3:54 PM	3:32 AM
Sunday	4:45 PM	4:32 AM

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**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8	

# Business

## Print newspapers are dead? Not after historic elections

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Print newspapers may be disappearing like the home telephone, but not after Election Day.

Remembering the frenzy for old-fashioned papers the morning after Barack Obama's historic win in 2008, newspapers are printing extra copies and setting up temporary retail stands this year, regardless of whether the nation elects the first woman or reality TV star as president. The Los Angeles Times is also selling a commemorative printing-press plate of the front page.

Many people now rely on Facebook and apps for news, but a screenshot doesn't have quite the same romance as a newspaper's front page.

"We like to hold on to things that remind us of the experiences we've had," like campaign buttons, theater programs or shells from a visit to the beach, said Naomi Baron, an American University professor who studies the interplay of language and technology.

A physical version of a newspaper recounting a life-altering event like 9/11 or the assassination of President John F. Kennedy is an extension of those keepsakes that a website or app can't replace, she said. "Paper has a certain kind of look and feel and smell to it that digital equivalents don't."

Even so, after a long, sour campaign season, demand for a front page may be more



In this Nov. 5, 2008, file photo, New York City newspapers are displayed in New York. Clockwise from top left are: The New York Times, the New York Post, the Daily News and Newsday. Newspapers are printing extra copies and setting up temporary retail stands after recalling the frenzy for an ink-stained memento after Barack Obama's historic win in 2008.

Many newspapers restarted printing presses to meet demand. The Post had two extra print runs and issued a thinner commemorative edition in a third.

For this year, Coratti wouldn't say how many additional copies the Post is planning, but she said it's similar to what the Post printed for Pope Francis' visit in 2015.

She said the newspaper is prepared for a second printing if needed, leaving plates on the presses. The Post will also sell copies online and at its offices.

The New York Times sold out in many parts of Manhattan before noon and ended up printing 225,000 extra copies, said Mark Weitzel, who manages circulation and retail sales for the Times. That is more than double a typical day's sales at newsstands, coffee shops, convenience store and other street sales.

off-guard eight years ago when people wanted keepsake copies of the enormous photos and dramatic headlines declaring Obama the nation's first African-American president. Bookstores, convenience stores and newsstands across the country sold out. People descended on newspapers' headquarters in search of copies.

"They were stealing it off people's doorsteps," Wash-

## Bypass TV with online tools, live streams on Election Day

**NEW YORK** (AP)—TVs are so last century. News outlets are using Facebook Live, Snapchat, YouTube and other tools to offer live coverage of Election Day in ways not possible four years ago.

It's a fitting close to an election season that has played out on Twitter and Facebook as much as it has on the nightly news, with debates live-streamed online and candidates barbing on social media.

Here's your online guide for Tuesday. All times are Eastern.

### FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE AND MORE

Unless you're one of the millions of Americans who have already voted, it's a good idea to find out where to cast your ballot, preferably before Tuesday. Googling "how to vote"

will take you to localized results that include the times the polls are open and any requirements such as an ID. You can also enter your address to locate your polling place.

Facebook's elections tool will show you what's on your ballot and where various candidates stand on key issues. The information comes from the nonpartisan group Center for Technology and Civic Life, which also generates some of the data for Google searches such as "what's on my ballot." To get started, go to <https://www.facebook.com/elections/yourplan> (you'll need a Facebook account).

### SNAP AWAY

Among other things, Snapchat users will be able to see "live stories" on the app—

showing people at the polls, election results, acceptance and concession speeches and election night celebrations. In the U.S., users will see overlays they can add to their snaps.

### FACE-OFF ON FACEBOOK

NowThis, a news outlet aimed at millennials, will have video coverage on its Facebook page. Comedian Jordan Carlos will host the stream, called "No Sleep til POTUS."

CNN will have live coverage with reporters in battleground states, as well as drone shots of voting locations and international reaction throughout the day. Each hour from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. will be streamed from a different location. After 6 p.m., the network will continue

Facebook Live streams from various locations, including watch parties and, again, battleground states.

The Washington Post is planning live programming on its Facebook page beginning at 7 p.m. The show will include commentary and updates from Post reporters, including those at campaign headquarters for both Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton.

The New York Times will also stream election coverage on its Facebook page, beginning at 4:30 p.m., from locations such as polling stations, college campuses and election viewing parties.

Other news outlets with live streaming plans include Univision, PBS NewsHour, the Daily Caller, ABC News and Vox.

## Tesla to end unlimited free use of supercharging stations

**DETROIT** (AP)—Electric car maker Tesla Motors has decided to stop offering unlimited free use of its 734 fast charging stations worldwide, just months before it's scheduled to start selling a mass-market electric car.

Tesla Motors Inc. says cars ordered after Jan. 1, 2017 will get roughly 1,000 miles worth of credits each year for use at the Supercharger stations. But after the credits are used, owners will have to pay fees that Tesla didn't detail on Monday. Vehicles ordered or sold on or

before Jan. 1 would still get unlimited free charging.

The move means that those who buy Tesla's mass-market \$35,000 Model 3, which is due to go on sale in the second half of next year, won't get unlimited free charging. Tesla has more than 300,000 reservations for the cars, and if all those owners started using supercharger stations for free, that could get expensive for Tesla.

Tesla wouldn't say specifically how much its fees will be, but it said charging would cost less than the price of fill-

ing a comparable gasoline car. The company says it will release fee details later this year and that prices could fluctuate over time and vary by regional electricity costs.

Still, the move shouldn't hurt Tesla sales because the company remains the market leader for electric vehicles, and owners don't use the stations that often, said Tasha Keeney, analyst for the industrial innovation fund at ARK Invest. Tesla owners charge their cars at home more than 90 percent of the time, she

said, using the Superchargers mainly for trips or when they need extra range.

At the average U.S. electricity price of 12.9 cents per kilowatt hour, it would cost \$9.68 to fully recharge a Tesla Model S with a 275-mile battery at home.

"EVs are the way forward. Tesla is in a really good position with 30 percent of the market. We don't see that changing," said Keeney, whose fund has holdings in Palo Alto, California-based Tesla Motors Inc.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Laos moves ahead with plan for third contentious Mekong dam

Laos has notified its Southeast Asian neighbors that it's moving ahead with a third contentious hydro dam on the Mekong River's mainstream. The Mekong River Commission, an organization that groups together Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand for joint management of the river, says it has received notice from Laos that it will undertake a process of consultation about the Pak Beng dam. In the previous consultation cases for the Xayaburi and Don Sahong dams, Laos went ahead with the projects despite vociferous objections from the other countries. It has already begun preparatory work for the Pak Beng dam in the northern province of Oudomxay. Critics of the dams say they will damage fisheries and a rice bowl delta that support 60 million people. (AP)

#### Greek tourism enjoys best summer season on record

LONDON (AP)—Greece's tourism sector appears to be reaping the rewards from a period of relative political stability as well as attracting many travelers who had shied away from other Mediterranean hotspots, like Turkey and Egypt, following a string of attacks. Elena Kountoura, Greece's alternate minister for tourism, said Monday that 2016 has been "another great year for Greek tourism," with international arrivals up 7 percent in the nine months through September compared with the year before. The four summer months from July were the best ever for the sector, she said. "By the end of the year, international arrivals are expected to exceed 27 million, including cruise arrivals, which is a new high record for Greece," she said at the World Travel Market in London, the industry's biggest global gathering.

Tesla Motors Inc. says cars ordered after Jan. 1, 2017 will get roughly 1,000 miles worth of credits each year for use at the Supercharger stations. But after the credits are used, owners will have to pay fees that Tesla didn't detail on Monday. Vehicles ordered or sold on or

# Nation

## Clinton, Trump sprint to finish in final campaign appeals

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)— Closing out a wildly unpredictable White House race, Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump blitzed through battleground states Monday in a final bid to energize supporters. Clinton, backed by an emotional appeal from Barack Obama, urged voters to embrace a “hopeful, inclusive, bighearted America,” while Trump vowed to “beat the corrupt system.”

The candidates rallied voters late into the night, a frenzied end to a bitter election year that has laid bare the nation’s deep economic and cultural divides. Clinton and Trump were both nostalgic at times, looking back fondly at a campaign that has put each on the brink of the presidency.

■■■

**DIXVILLE, N.H. (AP)**— Hillary Clinton is off to a very early lead in the 2016 presidential election, win-



AP

Donald Trump takes a break from speaking to compare his face to a mask during a rally at the Sarasota Fairgrounds in Sarasota, Fla., on Monday, Nov. 7, 2016.

ning over the voters of Dixville, New Hampshire, by a 4-2 margin over Donald Trump.

**Polls in the tiny New Hampshire towns of Dixville, Hart's Location and Millsfield opened just af-**

ter midnight Tuesday and closed as soon as everyone had voted. These die-hard voters are proud to have the

### Making a choice: Voters talk of decision and of tensions

Election Day has arrived at last, and Americans are heading to the polls to have their say in the choice of the next president. Some paused to talk about their decisions and the tensions of the moment.

■■■

When Art Meadowcroft exited city hall in Plymouth, Minnesota, Monday after casting an early ballot, he reached into his pocket for a camouflage cap bearing Donald Trump’s slogan, “Make America Great Again,” and placed it on his head.

“It was a tough decision because he certainly had his very rough sides,” Meadowcroft, 62, said of Trump, his choice for president. “But I don’t think there is a question mark

when it comes down to what is in his heart and what he wants for the country.”

Meadowcroft, a former college administrator, coach and real estate agent who is now retired, came to vote with his sister, bringing sandwiches to pass the time in a long line. A self-described independent, he said he’d voted in the past for Democrats, including once for Bill Clinton. But he voted for Trump because it is time to get back to the “true values” of the country.

Meadowcroft said he believes firmly in immigration. But he wants better vetting to ensure “the right people are coming in, people that want to grasp our values... I think

we’ve opened the doors too much, and made ourselves vulnerable.”

■■■

This election marks the first time that sisters Yadira and Catherine Jimenez have voted. They cast early ballots in West Jordan, Utah, and had no hesitation about their choice. Both voted for Hillary Clinton.

For Yadira, whose husband has lived in the U.S. since he was a toddler but is not a citizen, the vote was partly a reaction to Donald Trump’s hard line on immigration.

But the sisters, both young mothers and pregnant, said they also wanted to signal their approval of a woman as the country’s leader.

“I thought it would be nice

to be alive to see the first lady president,” said Yadira Jimenez, 24, who works the front desk at a pediatrician’s office and is expecting her first daughter. “It shows you can achieve anything in life and that not just men are capable of becoming president. I want to show my children that anybody can do anything as long as they work hard.”

She and her sister said it was important that the winning candidate be someone who cares about people like them. But Trump is definitely not that person, they said. “He’s racist not only to Latinos, but to pretty much every race,” said Catherine Jimenez, who is 20 and studying to be a medical assistant.

several small quakes have rumbled the area. Spears said an assisted living community had been evacuated after damage was reported. The Cushing Public School District canceled Monday classes.

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation reported Sunday night that no highway or bridge damage was found within a 15-mile radius of the earthquake’s epicenter.

The quake struck at 7:44 p.m. Sunday and was felt as far away as Iowa, Illinois and Texas. The U.S. Geological Survey initially said Sunday’s quake was of magnitude 5.3 but later lowered the reading to 5.0.

“I thought my whole trailer was going to tip over, it was

shaking it so bad,” said Cushing resident Cindy Roe, 50. “It was loud and all the lights went out and you could hear things falling on the ground.

“It was awful and I don’t want to have another one.”

In recent years, Oklahoma regulators have asked oil and gas producers to either close wastewater injection wells or cut back on the volume of fluids injected. The reductions have generally led to a drop-off in quakes and their severity, though not always.

Regulators said Monday they would shut down some disposal wells near Cushing and restrict the volume that can be used in others, but said details would be released Tuesday.

#### first word on the big vote.

While Clinton won half the Dixville votes, Libertarian Gary Johnson took one and 2012 Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney got a write-in vote.

■■■

Under New Hampshire state law, communities with fewer than 100 voters can get permission to open their polls at midnight and close them as soon as all registered voters have cast their ballots.

Clinton campaigned with confidence, buoyed by FBI Director James Comey’s announcement Sunday that he would not recommend criminal charges against her following a new email review. The FBI inquiry had sapped a surging Clinton momentum at a crucial moment in the race, though she still heads into Election Day with multiple paths to the 270 Electoral College votes needed to become the nation’s first female president.

Clinton closed her campaign alongside the last two Democrats to occupy the Oval Office, Obama and her husband, former President

Bill Clinton, as well as first lady Michelle Obama. In a nod to the deep divisions that await the next president, Clinton said she’d come to “regret deeply how angry the tone of the campaign became.” She cast the choice facing voters Tuesday as a “test of our time.”

“We know enough about my opponent, we know who he is,” Clinton said, addressing tens of thousands of people sprawled across Philadelphia’s Independence Mall. “The real question for us is what kind of country we want to be.”

Obama’s address amounted to a valedictory for a president whose popularity has grown in his final year in office.

“America, I’m betting on you one more time,” Obama said. “I am betting that tomorrow you will reject fear and choose hope.”

Trump, who sped through five rallies Monday, recalled the rivals he’d vanquished and how far he’s come since launching his improbable candidacy. As he surveyed the crowd in Scranton, Pennsylvania, he declared, “It’s been a long journey.”

### Authorities: 3rd body found on South Carolina man’s property

**WOODRUFF, S.C. (AP)**— Investigators discovered a third body on the property of a South Carolina man who is now linked to seven deaths and the kidnapping of a woman who was found chained inside a storage container, authorities said Monday.

Todd Kohlhepp, 45, became a suspect after the woman was found Thursday chained by her neck and ankle in a metal storage container on his 95-acre property near rural Woodruff.

The body of her boyfriend was found a day later. The couple had been missing for about two months.

The other remains were found near one another Sunday and Monday, and authorities are not sure who they are. Investigators were expected back at the property on Tuesday, but Spartanburg County Coroner Rusty Clevenger said he didn’t think there were any more bodies.

“As the coroner, that’s all I have been advised of. That was the total number of bodies I was told was on the property. If I am told there are more, I will be back,” he said.

Following Kohlhepp’s arrest, he confessed to a 2003 quadruple slaying at a motorcycle shop in the small town

of Chesnee, said Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright. He was denied bond Sunday on four murder charges for gunning down the motorcycle shop’s owner, service manager, mechanic and bookkeeper.

Wright has said Kohlhepp gave details only the killer would know. His confession came a day before the 13th anniversary of the crime, which many feared would never be solved.

Before his confession, authorities granted him three requests, WSPA-TV reported (<http://bit.ly/2fwxkwb>). One was to transfer money to a girl Kohlhepp says he’s helping raise, to help pay for college. The second was to give his mother a photograph, and the third was to let him talk to his mother.

Kohlhepp is charged with kidnapping the woman, and more criminal counts are expected. He has chosen to represent himself and not hire an attorney, Wright told the Spartanburg Herald-Journal (<http://bit.ly/2fyeVOe>).

Wright, who was first elected about a year after the Superbike Motorsports killings, is now investigating what appears to be a crime spree stretching over more than a decade.

# Confusion, obstacles raise voting concerns in some states

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—More than a dozen states have enacted tougher requirements for registering and voting since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned a key provision of the Voting Rights Act three years ago.

That has led to confusion and claims that certain groups, mostly minorities who tend to vote with Democrats, are being disenfranchised.

Adding to the uncertainty is a call by Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump for his supporters to monitor the polls on Tuesday for voter fraud and concerns by the federal government that hackers could try to disrupt the voting or vote-counting process.

A breakdown of some of the top voting concerns in key states:

## ALABAMA

This is the first presidential election in Alabama in which voters will be asked for photo identification. A lawsuit challenging the voter ID law is pending, with trial set for next year. The plaintiffs have argued the law disenfranchises voters who are unable to obtain a state-issued ID. Last year, 31 state driver's license offices—many in poor, minority communities—were closed because of budget concerns. Most were open one day a week and now they are open one to two days a month, with critics complaining the reduced hours remain a barrier.

## ARIZONA

Long lines led to frustration during Arizona's March primary, when some voters in the Phoenix area waited hours to cast ballots after county election officials opened 60 polling stations—fewer than half what is typical. On Tuesday, Maricopa County, which includes Phoenix, plans on having more than 700 sites. Meanwhile, state Democrats filed a lawsuit alleging some Republicans are planning to intimidate voters at the polls. Arizona also was one of two states in which hackers over the summer attempted to breach voter registration systems.

## FLORIDA

During the 2012 presidential election, Florida had the longest average wait time among all states—45 minutes, according to the Pew Charitable Trusts. Some of the most populous counties have since expanded early voting hours in the hopes of reducing long lines on Election Day.

Meanwhile, legal battles continue over voter registration. After Hurricane Mat-

thew raked Florida's eastern coastline, Democrats sued to extend the deadline for voters to register. After a court order, about 107,000 people registered during the extension, but there was a concern that not all those applications would be processed before early voting began. A federal judge declined a request by Democrats to force election officials to allow those affected to vote even if their registration had yet to be verified, saying those affected could cast a provisional ballot that may be counted once their eligibility is confirmed.

## GEORGIA

The state's process for handling voter registrations and maintaining its voter lists has been the subject of lawsuits this year. One pending lawsuit was filed against Secretary of State Brian Kemp over a policy allowing for people to be removed from state voter rolls for failing to vote in recent elections. Lawyers in the Georgia case said roughly 372,000 voters were purged between 2012 and 2014.

Civil rights groups also sued Kemp's office over a policy they said had prevented tens of thousands of residents from registering to vote and violated the federal Voting Rights Act. The policy rejected applicants whose identifying information did not exactly match state or federal databases. Kemp's office informed the court in September that it had changed the policy. Meanwhile, long lines have been reported in some places since early voting began Oct. 17, including a four-hour wait in one metro Atlanta county on the first day.

## INDIANA

Indiana State Police have said they are investigating some voter registration applications submitted by Patriot Majority USA, a Washington, D.C.-based voter mobilization group with ties to the Democratic Party. The probe is examining whether some applications contained forged signatures or other possible elements of fraud.

Attorneys for Patriot Majority have asked the Justice Department's Civil Rights division to look into whether the investigation is an attempt to suppress the votes of black residents. The group has run voter registration drives in 11 states in previous years.

Separately, Secretary of State Connie Lawson, a Republican, warned recently of widespread voter registration fraud after her office found a heavier than usual number



In this Oct. 20, 2016 file photo, voters line up during early voting at Chavis Community Center in Raleigh, N.C. AP

of changes to voter registration records. She later tempered those remarks to say that many of the thousands of changes simply could be residents rushing to correct their names or birth dates online ahead of the election.

## KANSAS

A Kansas court fight focused on whether a group of as many as 50,000 residents could vote even though they did not submit citizenship documents, as required under state law, when registering at motor vehicle offices or with a federal form. Federal courts had previously ordered the state to count their votes in federal elections. The secretary of state's office had sought to toss out their votes in state and local races, something a state judge has since blocked.

## NEW YORK

The state's 2016 primary was marred by widespread reports of people in Brooklyn saying they were unable to vote. This happened after about 126,000 Brooklyn voters were removed from voter registration lists or deemed inactive between November 2015 and April of this year. Just days before the presidential election, a lawsuit was filed claiming the New York City Board of Elections had improperly removed voters from the rolls.

## NORTH CAROLINA

In 2013, Republican lawmakers in North Carolina passed a package of measures that required voters to show photo ID, reduced early voting and eliminated same-day registration during the early voting period. In July, a federal appeals court struck down several parts of the law, saying they "target African Americans with almost surgical precision."

Republican officials have said discrimination was not their intent. A divided U.S. Supreme Court declined in August to take up the case.

After the ruling, Democrats raised alarm when the executive director of the state Republican Party emailed GOP activists suggesting each county election board's Republicans work to limit early voting hours, curtail Sunday voting and avoid placing voting sites on college campuses. This set up a battle over early voting plans in a third of the state's counties.

The dispute ultimately was resolved by the state Board of Elections, which restored Sunday voting in a few counties where local officials had sought to eliminate it and expanded hours in counties where the proposals seemed too limiting. But civil rights groups remained concerned that reductions in some places along with confusion over the photo ID law could affect turnout among black voters.

A week before Tuesday's election, the state chapter of the NAACP filed a lawsuit alleging thousands of people, many of them black, had been removed improperly from voter rolls after being challenged by private citizens. A judge ordered those registrations restored, citing a federal law that prohibits such removals too close to an election.

Separately, a federal judge declined a request by state Democrats for an order aimed at preventing Republicans from intimidating voters at the polls, saying there was insufficient evidence of any such plans.

## OHIO

A federal judge ruled in October that voters who were wrongfully removed from Ohio's registration lists can cast ballots in Tuesday's election. The number of vot-

ers covered by the ruling is not known, although some have estimated it to be in the tens of thousands. That decision follows an earlier ruling that found Ohio's process for maintaining its voter rolls wrongfully removed eligible people based on their failure to vote in recent elections.

It was estimated that more than 600,000 registered voters in Texas lacked an acceptable ID under the law. And there were early signs that confusion surrounding the law has persisted, with reports during early voting of at least seven counties with outdated posters and poll workers saying photo IDs were required to vote.

A federal judge in September had said Texas officials must change the voter outreach efforts after the Justice Department accused the state of still giving the impression that some voters cannot cast a ballot.

## WISCONSIN

This is the first presidential election in Wisconsin in which voters will be asked for photo identification. The voter ID law was initially blocked by the courts, and then went into effect for the presidential primary in April. In July, a federal judge left the voter ID requirement in place but struck down more than a dozen other election changes, including limits on early voting hours and locations.

As many as 300,000 Wisconsin voters may not have the required photo ID. In recent weeks, recordings by voter advocacy groups have shown state DMV workers giving people inaccurate information about what they can do to obtain alternative voting credentials if they lack a photo ID. A federal judge in October ordered the state to clarify the process and produce a simple, one-page handout that can be distributed in person and online.

## OTHER STATES

Civil rights groups are also monitoring a group of other states with new voting restrictions or requirements in place for the first time. Those states are Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

# Asia

## In rare step, China bars 2 HK lawmakers from office

**BEIJING** (AP)—China's top legislature took the rare step Monday of intervening directly in a local Hong Kong political dispute by effectively barring two legally elected separatist lawmakers from taking office, setting the stage for further turmoil in the semi-autonomous city.

Beijing moved to deny the two a second chance to take their oaths after being disqualified on their initial attempt last month for using anti-China insults and foul language. But the maneuver circumvented Hong Kong's courts, raising fears that the city's independent judiciary is being undermined.

The decision was intended to nip in the bud the rise of separatist sentiment, but it has raised the specter of more political unrest in Hong Kong. Major street demonstrations two years ago failed to win greater democracy but spawned an independence movement.

On Sunday, thousands rallied against the anticipated Chinese government announcement. Police used pepper spray and batons against demonstrators trying to reach Beijing's liaison office. Four people were arrested and two officers were injured, police said.

The dispute centers on pro-independence lawmakers Six-tus Leung, 30, and Yau Wai-ching, 25, who altered their oaths to insert a disparaging Japanese expression for China. Displaying a flag reading "Hong Kong is not China," they vowed to defend the "Hong Kong nation." Their oaths were ruled invalid and subsequent attempts have resulted in mayhem in the Legislative Council's weekly sessions as the council's president refused to let them try again until the government's legal challenge is settled.

But Beijing decided to act more quickly. The National People's Congress Stand-



AP

A hostess refills tea as Li Fei, deputy secretary general of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, holds a China's legislation law book speaks during a press conference at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Monday, Nov. 7, 2016.

Yuen, a politics lecturer at the Open University of Hong Kong. He added that protests and collective action have hit a dead end.

"Rationally for young people the only way out is to fight more radically," he said.

The U.S. State Department expressed disappointment over Monday's developments and voiced strong support for Hong Kong's Legislative Council and independent judiciary.

"We believe that an open society with the highest possible degree of autonomy and government by the rule of law is essential for Hong Kong's continued stability and prosperity," spokesman Mark Toner told reporters in Washington.

In Beijing, Li Fei, a deputy secretary general of the NPC Standing Committee, denied that the central government was escalating its interference in Hong Kong's affairs.

are disqualified from election.

It's the first time Beijing has stepped in to block elected Hong Kong lawmakers from taking office, or has interpreted the Basic Law before a Hong Kong court has delivered a ruling on a case.

"For the young people this is going to definitely create a backlash. This is going to further fuel the independence movement," said Samson

## Pakistan detains Shiite, Sunni leaders over Karachi attacks

### KARACHI, Pakistan

(AP)—Pakistani police detained several Sunni and Shiite Muslim leaders in a probe over recent sectarian attacks in the southern port city of Karachi, prompting protests and clashes Monday, police said.

Faisal Raza Abidi, an outspoken former anti-Taliban Shiite lawmaker from Pakistan's liberal People's Party, is among those facing questioning, said counter-terrorism police officer Junaid Sheikh.

The police and Pakistan's paramilitary forces have raided both Sunni and Shiite religious seminaries over the last two days, detaining an unspecified number of people, Sheikh said.

Sunni and Shiite activists have rallied in Karachi, protesting against the raids. One of the rallies by the Shiites blocked a highway for eight hours, which the police dispersed with tear gas. Police officer Razaq Khan said protesters clashed with police and pelted them with stones.

Pakistan's Sunni militants, many affiliated with the Taliban and al-Qaeda, have long targeted minority Shiites, considering them to be heretics.

ing Committee, the country's top legislative panel, issued a ruling on a section of Hong Kong's Basic Law, or mini-constitution, covering oaths

taken by officials. It said talk of independence for Hong Kong is intended to "divide the country" and that those who advocate independence

cause most hope that Australia will eventually take them in.

Australia refuses to resettle any refugee who has arrived by boat since the date the tough policy was announced, July 19, 2013.

The government also introduced to Parliament legislation that would ban such refugees from ever visiting Australia as a tourist, to do business or as an Australian's spouse.

"This legislation sends a strong message to people smugglers and those considering traveling illegally to Australia by boat that Australia's

borders are now stronger than ever," Dutton told Parliament.

But the center-left opposition Labor Party said it will not support the legislation. Without Labor's backing in the Senate, the conservative government will need to persuade independent and minor-party senators to make the bill law.

"The idea that a citizen of the United States or Canada or New Zealand faces a lifetime ban preventing them from visiting Australia in 30 or 40 years' time is simply unacceptable," Labor leader Bill Shorten said.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### In defeat, SKorean president to let parliament choose her PM

##### SEOUL, South Korea

(AP)—South Korea's president says she will allow parliament to choose her prime minister as she tries to defuse an escalating influence-peddling scandal. The announcement Tuesday by Park Geun-hye is a major concession that could severely curtail her ability to govern in the year she has left in her term. The prime minister Park nominated last week as a way to settle growing anger will apparently be replaced. But opposition and ruling party lawmakers must first agree on someone else. Earlier Tuesday prosecutors raided the Seoul office of Samsung Electronics in connection with the scandal. The

Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office said the raid was part of investigation into the scandal centering on how much Park's longtime confidante Choi Soon-sil meddled in state affairs though she was not a government employee.

#### Famous pool-cue maker sentenced in attempted ivory smuggling

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A famous custom pool-cue maker has been sentenced to two years of probation for his role in trying to help export protected African elephant ivory to Taiwan. Seventy-five-year-old Cesar "Ernie" Gutierrez was also ordered to immediately pay a \$10,000 criminal fine on Monday. Gutierrez pleaded guilty on Aug. 29 to aiding and abet-

ting the attempted smuggling of African elephant ivory. Prosecutors say Gutierrez manufactured and sold two people 41 sections of custom pool cues with inlays of the protected ivory for \$75,000 to \$85,000. Both individuals were later arrested at Los Angeles International Airport. Gutierrez makes ornate cues with materials that include gold, jewels and exotic woods. His customers through the years have included stars like Frank Sinatra. A telephone message left for Gutierrez on Monday was not immediately returned.

#### Japanese man killed in accident off Indonesia's Bali island

BALI, Indonesia (AP)—Large waves hit a glass-bottomed boat off the resort

island of Bali on Monday, causing it to capsize and killing three people including a Japanese tourist, Indonesian police said. Local maritime police chief Ketut Suparta said the 71-year-old Japanese victim, Noburu Nakazawa, was one of four Japanese tourists in the boat that sank in waters off Serangan, a small island in Benoa Bay. Suparta said the two other fatalities were the boat's Indonesian captain and his wife. One of the Japanese tourists, Hirokazu Ito, was hospitalized due to shock and the two others were in good condition, Suparta said. The group was looking at underwater scenery when their boat was hit by a big wave that threw Nakazawa overboard. It was followed by a second wave that capsized the boat.

# World

## Iraqi Kurdish forces advance as mass grave found near Mosul

**NEAR BASHIQA, Iraq** (AP)—Iraqi Kurdish fighters exchanged heavy fire with militants on Monday as they entered a town held by the Islamic State group east of Mosul, while troops advancing south of the city discovered a mass grave containing some 100 decapitated bodies.

The offensive to reclaim the town of Bashiqa is part of the broader push to drive IS out of Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city, relieving those living under its occupation from the type of brutality, such as mass killings, that the group has committed.

IS militants have carried out a series of massacres since seizing large swaths of southern and central Iraq in the summer of 2014, often documenting them with photos and videos circulated online. On Monday, Iraqi soldiers advancing into the town of Hamam al-Alil, south of Mosul, discovered a pit containing dozens of decapitated skeletal remains, the military's Joint Military Command said.

The offensive to retake Bashiqa began at dawn with

a Kurdish barrage of heavy artillery, Katyusha rockets and mortar rounds slamming into IS positions, providing cover for the advance of armored columns.

Smoke rose from the town throughout the day, with large explosions sending dark clouds into the sky.

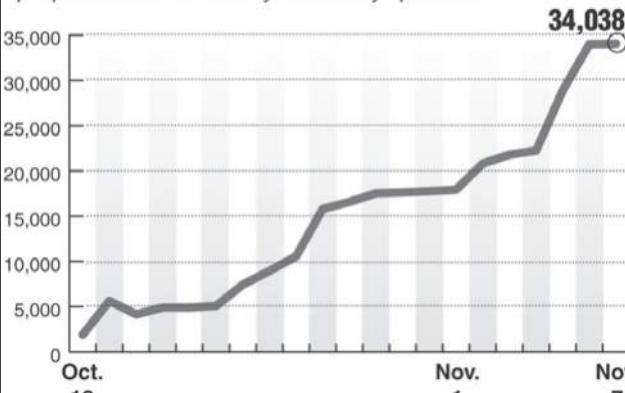
"We have the coordinates of their bases and tunnels, and we are targeting them from here in order to weaken them so that our forces can reach their targets more easily," said Iraqi Kurdish commander Brig. Gen. Iskander Khalil Gardi.

Bashiqa, which is believed to be largely deserted except for dozens of IS fighters, is located about 13 kilometers (eight miles) northeast of Mosul's outskirts and about 20 kilometers (13 miles) from the city center. Iraqi government and Kurdish forces, backed by a U.S.-led coalition and joined by government-sanctioned militias, are fighting to drive IS out of those surrounding areas and open additional fronts to attack Mosul itself.

Bashiqa has been surrounded by Kurdish forces, known

### Civilians flee Mosul

*Since Oct. 18 more than 34,000 people have been displaced in and around Mosul, Iraq but the U.N. has warned up to 1.5 million people could be affected by the military operations.*



as peshmerga, for weeks but Monday's push appeared to be the most serious yet to drive IS from the town.

Kurdish forces launched mortar rounds and fired heavy artillery into the town Sunday in advance of the offensive. More artillery and air strikes hit the town early Monday as the Kurdish forces' advance got underway.

On Mosul's southern front, meanwhile, Iraqi soldiers advancing into Hamam al-

Alil, some 12 miles (20 kilometers) from the city center, discovered a mass grave late Monday containing some 100 decapitated bodies near the town's agricultural college. Most were reduced to skeletons, said Brig. Gen. Yahya Rasool, the spokesman for the Joint Military Command.

He said a forensics team from Baghdad would investigate the site on Tuesday.

Earlier Monday, army spokesman Brig. Firas

Bashar said Iraqi forces had retaken the town and images broadcast by the Lebanon-based Al-Mayadeen network showed soldiers hoisting the Iraqi flag on a rooftop in the town. Other reports, however, said fighting still continued and that IS fighters remained in several areas.

Iraqi special forces entered Mosul last week and have made some progress in gaining a foothold on the city's eastern edges. But progress inside the city has been slowed as troops push into more densely populated areas.

The troops are suffering casualties as the militants target them with suicide car bombs and booby traps in close-quarters fighting along the city's narrow streets. IS still holds territory to the north, south and west of Mosul, its last major urban stronghold in Iraq.

In neighboring Syria, meanwhile, Kurdish-led Syrian fighters pushed ahead Monday with an offensive aimed at isolating and encircling the Islamic State group's de facto capital of Raqqa, making small advances in villages to the north of the city. U.S.-led

coalition warplanes provided air cover for the long-awaited campaign to liberate the city, which began Sunday.

Both battles are likely to be long and costly as the extremists are expected to fight until the end to try to hold onto their biggest urban strongholds in both countries.

Civilians were fleeing Mosul in growing numbers as Iraqi forces struggle to solidify gains in neighborhoods in the eastern part of the city, said special forces Lt. Col. Hussein Aziz.

"Daesh is trying to draw a line," Aziz said of the heavy fighting in Mosul's eastern-most neighborhoods, referring to the militant group by its Arabic acronym. "They have a lot of fighters there and they forced families to stay."

Aziz was manning a checkpoint on the edge of Gogjali, Mosul's easternmost neighborhood, where civilians fleeing Mosul are screened to catch any IS fighters who may be hiding among them. Since Iraqi forces first pushed into the eastern edge of the city last Tuesday, Aziz's team has arrested dozens of people.

## Nicaragua president easily wins new term, with wife as VP

**MANAGUA, Nicaragua** (AP)—President Daniel Ortega overwhelmingly won re-election to a third consecutive term in official results announced Monday, putting him in position to govern for a quarter-century and cement family control over the country with his wife now officially vice president.

With nearly all votes counted, the ticket of the former guerrilla leader and first lady Rosario Murillo captured 72.5 percent, compared with 15 percent for the next-closest finisher among five lesser-known challengers. Their ruling Sandinista party is also poised to retain its domination of congress.

But governing during his new five-year term could prove to be a tougher task.

Opposition leaders, who had accused Ortega of rigging Sunday's election and called for a boycott, disputed the official turnout estimate and claimed many people stayed home in protest, undercutting his mandate.

Meanwhile, the Western Hemisphere's second-poorest country faces an uncertain economic future with key benefactor Venezuela in a deepening crisis and other

leftist ideological allies losing power in the region.

"I think the biggest problem that Ortega faces is the legitimacy of the process by which he was re-elected, which causes it to be questioned from within and from without the country because it has not complied with rules of fair play," political scientist Humberto Meza said.

"The expectations of the people who are accustomed to subsidies for transportation, subsidies for the cost of energy, social payouts and everything else are going to increase," he added. "I don't think it's an easy thing."

If the 70-year-old Ortega completes his next five-year term, he will have been in power a total of about 25 years, including a decade or so after his Sandinista revolution toppled dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979.

Critics said the election was unfairly tilted after court rulings that first allowed Ortega to seek a new term and later barred his strongest opponents from running and unseated nearly all opposition lawmakers in congress. They accuse him of creating a new political dynasty with his wife.

## Syrian Kurds make small advances in push toward Raqqa

**BEIRUT** (AP)—Kurdish-led Syrian fighters pushed ahead Monday with an offensive aimed at isolating and encircling the Islamic State group's stronghold of Raqqa, making small advances in villages north of the extremists' de facto capital.

Warplanes from a U.S.-led coalition provided air cover for the fighters from the Syria Democratic Forces, an alliance of Kurdish and Arab fighters formed last year with the aim of incorporating non-Kurdish elements into the mainly Kurdish militia fighting IS in Syria.

The SDF announced the start of the campaign to liberate Raqqa at a news conference.

ence Sunday in northern Syria, and the United States, France and Britain said they would provide air support for the offensive, dubbed "Euphrates Rage."

But the battle for the Syrian city, home to nearly 200,000 mostly Sunni Arabs and an estimated 5,000 IS militants including many foreigners, could be long and costly.

IS fighters are expected to fight until the end, considering that losing Raqqa would mean the extremist group would not fully control any large cities in Syria, where a civil war has been raging for more than five years.

At the same time, Iraqi forces are pushing forward

U.S.-backed Kurdish soldiers push to retake city from militants



against Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city and the militants' biggest urban stronghold in that country.

## Palestinians open Arafat's bedroom to public

**RAMALLAH, West Bank** (AP)—Palestinians will soon get a chance to glimpse the small bedroom where their longtime leader Yasser Arafat spent his final years.

The 5-square meter (54-square-foot) room is the centerpiece of the new Arafat Museum, which opens to the public on Thursday to coincide with the 12th anniversary of Arafat's death.

The room has only a single bed and small closet that barely holds four suits, a few checkered headscarves

and shirts. There is also a nightstand and lamp, a prayer carpet and a painting by his then-young daughter Zahwa.

Arafat spent most of the last three years of his life in this bedroom on the ground floor of his Ramallah headquarters, known as the Muqata.

Israel confined him to the building on Dec. 8, 2001, accusing him of masterminding a violent uprising at the time. He remained holed up there until Oct. 29, 2004, when Israel allowed him to travel to

France for emergency medical care. He died from a mysterious illness at the age of 75 two weeks later.

The bedroom, left largely untouched since Arafat's death, is housed in a vacant wing of the Muqata that is connected to the new \$7 million, 2,600 square meter (28,000 square foot) museum by a bridge.

"Arafat's story is the story of the Palestinian people in their struggle for freedom and independence," said Nasser Kidwa, Arafat's

nephew and head of the Arafat Foundation.

The museum tracks Arafat's life, saying he was born on Aug. 4, 1929, in the Old City of Jerusalem, though other accounts have said he was born in either Gaza or Cairo.

It displays many of his famous belongings: the old radio he used when he was working underground in the West Bank after Israel captured the territory in 1967, his last pair of eyeglasses, pens, handwritten papers and a gun he kept on his office desk.

# Focus

**JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia** (AP)—When Souad al-Shammary posted a series of tweets about the thick beards worn by Saudi clerics, she never imagined she would land in jail.

She put up images of several men with beards: An Orthodox Jew, a hipster, a communist, an Ottoman Caliph, a Sikh, and a Muslim. She wrote that having a beard was not what made a man holy or a Muslim. And she pointed out that one of Islam's staunchest critics during the time of Prophet Muhammad had an even longer beard than him.

The frank comments are typical of this twice-divorced mother of six and graduate of Islamic law, who is in many ways a walking challenge to taboos in deeply conservative Saudi Arabia. Raised a devout girl in a large tribe where she tended sheep, al-Shammary is now a 42-year-old liberal feminist who roots her arguments in Islam, taking on Saudi Arabia's powerful religious establishment.

She has paid a price for her opinions. She spent three months in prison without charge for "agitating public opinion." She has been barred by the government from traveling abroad. Her co-founder of the online forum Free Saudi Liberals Network, blogger Raif Badawi, is serving a 10-year prison sentence and was publicly lashed 50 times. Her father disowned her in public.

None of it was enough to keep her quiet.

"I have rights that I don't view as against my religion," says al-Shammary. "I want to ask for these rights, and I want those who make decisions to hear me and act."

Across the Arab world, female Islamic scholars and activists have long been pushing for interpretations of Shariah law that allow women more freedom. They hold that Islam considers men and women as equals before God, but centuries of selective interpretation have twisted its spirit.

"Discrimination came from a reading of the religion, not the religion itself," says Olfa Youssef, a professor of Islamic studies in Tunisia and member of the Musawah global movement of Muslim feminists.

Al-Shammary is one of the most vocal and high-profile religious and women's rights activists within Saudi Arabia. Advocates here are demanding an end to so-called male guardianship rules that essentially treat women as minors, and recently sent a petition to King Salman that garnered about 14,700 signatures.

"She's very sure of what

she's saying—she doesn't hesitate," says Sahar Nassief, a friend and fellow Saudi activist. "She literally comes from a Bedouin environment, a desert environment. She's very proud of her background, but this makes her a bit blunt with everyone and very blunt in what she says."

The boldness is evident in how she looks and carries herself.

At a little past 10 p.m., al-Shammary arrives at a relaxed rooftop restaurant in the coastal city of Jiddah in a multi-colored abaya, the loose robe all women in Saudi Arabia must wear in public. But unlike the black abayas of most, hers is a rainbow of gold, beige and bronze stripes. Her auburn-dyed hair, infused with subtle but trendy streaks of blue, purposefully and willfully peaks out from under a loosely wrapped tan headscarf. Her pink lip gloss is shiny, her nails painted dark red.

She counters what she calls the views of some women that all of life is just for "worship, worship, worship."

"You can wear lipstick and take care of your looks," she says. "I would say to them: This isn't forbidden."

Al-Shammary grew up the daughter of a peasant farmer in Ha'il, a landlocked province north of the capital, Riyadh. As the eldest of 12 children, she was in charge of the sheep.

She was not just religious but a practicing Salafi, a Muslim who adheres to a literalist interpretation of Shariah. She even had leanings toward Sayyid Qutb, whose books are banned across much of the Arab world because extremists use them to justify killing Muslims and non-Muslims alike.

She was deeply affected by the wars in Afghanistan and Bosnia, where Muslim men and boys were massacred. It was also at this time that the Sahwa Movement, or Islamic Awakening, was reaching its peak in Saudi Arabia. Conservatives demanded a bigger role for the clergy in government, and students no longer sang folk songs or performed traditional dance in schools.

Women began wearing the full face veil even in communities where it wasn't the custom. Segregation of the sexes became more entrenched.

Al-Shammary had little exposure to the outside world in Ha'il. There were no malls, no satellite television receivers and no movie theaters in sight. Her hobby was listening to the news bulletin on the radio, writing it out and reading it back to her father.



AP  
In this Saturday, May 7, 2016 photo, Saudi women's rights activist Souad al-Shammary puts on a head scarf in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, Saturday, May 7, 2016.

## A liberal mother of six jailed for challenging Saudi taboos

She also listened to conservative sermons on tapes shared among neighbors and friends.

"Around the world, stars are artists, actors, comedians, musicians. Our stars were religious men," she says.

She graduated from the University of Ha'il with a degree in Islamic studies and became a public school teacher. She spanked girls if she heard them singing, and worked closely with other women to raise money for Sunni jihadis in Afghanistan fighting Communist Soviet forces.

At 17, she married a man twice her age from the same tribe, who offered her financial stability. She had a girl, Yara, and was divorced at 20.

She re-married, to the chief judge in Ha'il who'd overseen her divorce proceedings, a man of prominence and religious stature as head of the Shariah courts there. He had other wives and children, even grandchildren. Most importantly, though, he had no objections to her daughter staying with her.

"He was older than my father," she says. "It wasn't love but a feeling of security."

In the end, it did not protect her.

Al-Shammary's journey to activism began on the day her daughter was taken from her.

Almost as soon as Yara turned seven, her ex-husband gained custody. Since al-Shammary had remarried, the

court ruled that the girl should live with her father rather than in a house with another man.

"When they took her and said, 'this is Allah's will' and 'this is Islam', this is when my internal rebellion was sparked," says al-Shammary. "There is no way that there is a God in this universe that would accept this injustice and this pain on the basis that I am a woman."

Her ex-husband rejected tribal mediation as an alternative. Her husband, the judge, refused to interfere and wouldn't allow her to appeal, citing Shariah law. Her parents backed the court's decision and told her to be patient; it was the path to heaven.

During long walks in Ha'il's hills and farms, al-Shammary stood under the open sky, refusing to believe that God could want a mother separated from her child.

For eight years, she fought her parents, her community and anyone who stood between her and Yara, whom she wasn't able to see. She talked about the case in television interviews. She tried several times to whisk her daughter away after school, but was always stopped by authorities. Her ex-husband moved Yara to a farm outside the city to live in isolation with her grandmother.

"I became crazy, but in front of my parents and my husband the judge, and the

tribal community around him, and because of my position in the community and my name, I was expected to just sit like this and be a hero," she says, making an expressionless face and clasping her hands.

She had five children from her second marriage, but it wasn't long before she was divorced for a second time. And nothing made up for the loss of Yara.

"I prayed for a miracle to come down from the sky," she says. "I'd open the Quran. From the first verse on the first page to the last verse on the last page, there isn't a single thing that says, keep a daughter from her mother."

When Yara's father fell ill and the grandmother passed away, he finally allowed her, then 16, to live with her mother again. Al-Shammary relocated to the more liberal city of Jiddah with all her children finally under one roof.

She used her knowledge of Shariah by trying her hand at being a legal adviser for women in need, whom she had power of attorney to represent in court. She grew impatient with the judicial system, certain that it came down to personal connections or the whims of male judges.

Sometimes her advice was more Machiavellian than pious. Once she told a friend of hers to wear some makeup, find out which judge was slated to oversee her case, and

then cry in front of him and plead for her court date to be moved up. It worked.

She shared her thoughts online on how Islam sees people, including women, as born free and equal. She began reading about liberalism. Although many in Saudi Arabia equate liberalism with heresy, al-Shammary began describing herself as a liberal, saying it was "a translation of the spirit of Islam."

So began a war of words—and of images.

After she posted the pictures of men with beards, she was called a hypocrite, a disbeliever, wicked and evil. Sheikh Abdullah al-Manee, a member of Saudi Arabia's highest religious council, described her as "malicious" and called for her speedy trial. He told the state-linked Sabq newspaper that "Souad al-Shammary is a criminal and she will be held accountable for her transgressions against the prophet."

Her outspokenness and her appearances on television talk shows without a face veil were not easy on her family in Ha'il. Her younger brother, Fayed, recalls being told by a community elder: "You aren't a man. How can you allow your sister to behave like this?"

Fayed says he left Ha'il for about seven years because the comments became unbearable. His marriage proposal to a girl from another tribe was rejected because of his sister's reputation. He also came to blows with one of his younger brothers who cursed her flagrant disregard for social norms, with the two ending up in the hospital.

He describes the moment she posted pictures online with her hair showing.

"She opened a door that I couldn't defend," he said.

Even Yara opposed her at first.

"I was somehow against the idea. Like, mom, you are an activist? You are a human rights activist? You are women's activist? What does that even mean?" Yara asked. "I was so, so scared."

Kids at school would taunt her sons. In turn, they sometimes lashed out against their mother, says Fayed. Yara said they support their mother but also question how far she has taken her activism.

Despite prominent figures calling for al-Shammary's arrest and trial, she didn't think it could happen. She was sure she had not committed a crime.

"I hadn't crossed the line of Shariah," she says. "I am a graduate of Shariah."

The authorities thought otherwise.

# Good Housekeeping

## DIGGIN' IN:

By KATHY VAN MULLEKOM  
DAILY PRESS (NEWPORT NEWS, VA.)

Too often, winter is considered the dead season in the garden. It doesn't have to be that way when you plan and plant with every season — not just spring and summer — in mind.

"There is nothing more beautiful to me than the silhouette of trees against a winter sky," says Peggy Krapf of Heart's Ease Landscape & Garden Design — [www.HeartsEaseLandscape.com](http://www.HeartsEaseLandscape.com) — in Williamsburg, Va.

"This is where good or bad pruning becomes really evident. Trees should be carefully pruned so they are as beautiful in the winter as they are in the summer.

"I also love ornamental grasses in the garden any time of year — but especially winter. They are a lovely foil for other plants around them and the birds love to eat the seeds they produce. They add great interest to the winter landscape. I cut them down in early spring, just as the new growth begins."

In Krapf's viewpoint, the best winter gardens have a good balance of evergreen plants to deciduous species so everything doesn't "disappear" in winter. Be sure to choose plants carefully for winter because deer are hungriest at that time of year, less picky about what they will and won't eat and are likely to nibble on most anything, she advises.

"I especially love gardens with a lot of strong structural elements as well ... or good 'bone,'" says Krapf, a member of the Virginia Society of Landscape Designers — [www.vslld.org](http://www.vslld.org).

"Paving, walls, fencing, patios, even statuary and accents like benches and birdhouses give interest to a space when many plants are dormant or not looking their best."

"Even containers can be filled with greenery and colorful berries to carry through till the worst of winter is past."

For an eye-catching winter garden, Krapf favors perennials like Hellebores (both orientalis and foetidus), evergreen ferns, euphorbia and some herbs such as rosemary and sage.

"One I especially love is Arum italicum, known as Lords and Ladies," she says.

"I call it 'hosta for the winter,' but this one is deer resistant. Shiny, speckled, arrow-shaped leaves appear in great clumps in late fall and persist all winter long, looking fresh even in the coldest weather. I use them in flower arrangements with hellebores and other winter evergreens. When weather warms the leaves go



A pyracantha topiary in Williamsburg, Va., looks like a Christmas card against the white brick, says landscape designer Peggy Krapf. Different varieties berry either red or



Bare trees stand out like sculpture against a winter sunset, says landscape designer Peggy Krapf of Williamsburg, Va.

dormant and completely disappear. The plants then send up foot-tall stems in summer that are covered with orange berries for multi-season interest."

### MAHONIAS AND MORE

In Yorktown, Va., Allan Hull, nursery manager at Peninsula Hardwood Mulch — [www.peninsulahardwoodmulch.com](http://www.peninsulahardwoodmulch.com) — likes mahonias such as Winter Sun and Soft Caress.

"Winter Sun is a fabulous hybrid shrub adaptable from shade to sun," says Hull.

"Each cane will sprout a large bright yellow bloom

spike in winter, typically all December long. It is lightly fragrant and will also produce small green berries resembling grapes, which the birds eat.

"Soft Caress is a dwarf version of Winter Sun except the leaves are slender and are not thorny."

### Others he favors include:

■ Distylium Blue Cascade. Distylium is a relatively new plant group. There are several varieties, some compact, some larger. Distyliums are very tough and have a spreading

habit but dense. They are evergreen with small oval dark green leaves resembling fall camellias. Red blooms form all along the stems sometime in winter. Distylium seems to have no pest or pathogen problems, and is being touted as a good replacement for Indian Hawthorn and its leaf spot problems. Blue Cascade is a nice compact three foot by four foot type; it prefers sun but tolerates part shade.

■ Witch Hazel, Hamamelis. Witch Hazel is extremely cold hardy, tolerating temperatures to minus 45 degrees Fahrenheit. It is so cold tolerant that if the weather is subfreezing the blooms will close back up and reopen the next day when the sun returns to warm the buds. Most Witch Hazels are considered large shrubs or small trees, reaching about 18 feet tall and 15 feet wide. Witch Hazels also provide outstanding fall foliage color, ranging from yellows and oranges to reds, and can be extremely striking. In Hampton Roads, they bloom in winter, typically in February. The fragrance is a delightful citrus

aroma. Favorites include clear orange Jelena, yellow Sunburst a nice yellow, lavender Amethyst and red Diana.

■ Sarcococca Sweetbox, Confusa. Sweetbox is a greatly underused shrub with small dark leaves on a compact, evergreen, rounded habit. Its blooms are somewhat insignificant, however the fragrance produced is plentiful. The blooms are white and open in February, sometimes earlier in mild winters. Sweetbox shrubs are natural in part shade but are adaptable to full sun. Confusa grows to about four feet wide and tall.

### MIXING IT UP

In Hampton, Va., landscape designer Beverly Martin, believes winter interest in the garden calls for mixing it up.

"It involves planning a mix of evergreens in a variety of colors as well as deciduous plants that look good naked," says Martin.

Her winter-time favorites include:

Edgeworthia. It's easy to grow in full sun or part shade,

reaching about five feet tall. The leaf scars on the stems give it a unique look in winter as well as the silver buds on the branch tips that open to fragrant yellow flowers in February.

Weeping redbud. The delicate weeping branches are beautiful when there is no foliage in winter — cold weather is also the best time to prune the plant because you can see the branch structure. In early spring, branches are covered with pink or lavender buds depending on the variety.

■ Deciduous hollies. Sparkleberry is the best for winter interest, growing about 10 feet tall. The leafless branches are covered with bright red berries in winter and are stunning in a mass. The female hollies bear the berries and you need a pollinating male nearby. They will grow in sun or part shade and tolerate wet areas, making them a good choice for rain gardens as well. There are other cultivars in different sizes with orange and yellow berries; use them in flower arrangements and as food for songbirds.

*First Year Death Anniversary*

*Those we love don't go away,  
they walk beside us every day...  
Unseen, unheard,  
but always near,  
Still loved, still missed  
and very dear.*

In Loving Memory of our Beloved  
**Rosa Ada Aquino**

We, the family, would like to invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the First Year Death Anniversary of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.

Daily Mass will be offered at Mount Carmel Cathedral from November 9<sup>th</sup> to November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:00 a.m.

On the final day, November 17<sup>th</sup>, immediate relatives are invited for breakfast at Shirley's Coffee Shop, Susupe.

Your prayers, thoughts and presence are sincerely appreciated.

*Thank you, Un Dangkulo na Si Yu's Maase.*

**Ding Aquino, Children and Family**

# Life & Style

## Pitt-Jolie children will remain in actress' care

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Angelina Jolie Pitt will continue to have sole custody of her six children with Brad Pitt in a joint agreement reached by the actors, a representative for the actress said Monday.

The voluntary agreement calls for the former couple's six children, who range in ages from 8 to 15, to continue to have "therapeutic visits" with Pitt for the time being.

It is unclear what therapeutic visits entailed, and Jolie Pitt's representatives said they could not provide additional details.

A representative for Pitt declined comment.

Monday's statement said the agreement was reached more than a week ago, although Pitt told a court on Friday that he is seeking joint custody.

Jolie Pitt filed for divorce in September, days after Pitt

was involved in a disturbance during a private flight with his family. She cited irreconcilable differences as the reason for the breakup, and an attorney said at the time she filed for divorce "for the health of the family."

The statement makes no mention of an investigation by child welfare workers into the plane incident.

The agreement has not been

filed in the couple's divorce, and may not be the final custody arrangement governing the actors' children.

Pitt and Jolie Pitt reached a temporary custody agreement in late September that included at least some of the same terms—visitation with his children and both sides agreeing to meetings with therapists.

"We believe that all sides

are committed to healing the family and ask for your consideration during this difficult time," Monday's statement said.

The actor filed a legal response to the divorce on Friday and sought joint custody of the children. Formal custody arrangements are included a couple's divorce judgment, although they are rarely made public in celebrity divorce cases.

Pitt's filing did not include any new details about the couple's breakup. Pitt cited irreconcilable differences and makes no mention of a pre-nuptial agreement that will govern how the pair divides their assets. He also cites Sept. 15 as the day of their separation, one day after the alleged plane altercation between Pitt and his 15-year-old son, Maddox.

Pitt was accused of being abusive toward the teenager, sources told The Associated Press, but authorities were not notified when the plane landed in Minnesota. Several sources said the incident was being investigated by the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, but the agency said it could not confirm whether it was involved.

The actors were married for two years and together for 12 years after becoming close while filming 2005's "Mr. & Mrs. Smith."

## WikiLeaks show CNN reaching out to Dems for Trump questions

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The latest WikiLeaks release shows CNN reaching out to Democratic officials to suggest questions for host Wolf Blitzer to ask Donald Trump in an interview, a practice the network defended Monday as "completely unremarkable" and sound journalism.

Emails from the hacked file of Hillary Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta also showed the network asking Democrats to suggest questions for an interview with Ted Cruz.

The communications could infer a coziness with Democrats, particularly in the wake of previous reports that former CNN contributor and current Democratic National Committee chief Donna Brazile had communicated with the Clinton campaign about potential questions to be asked in campaign forums.

But CNN said it does the same with Republicans as part of efforts to present the best interviews.

"When preparing for interviews, we are regularly sent suggestions from rival campaigns and political parties, both solicited and unsolicited," said CNN spokeswoman Lauren Pratas. "Casting a wide net to ensure a tough and fair interview isn't just common media practice, it's smart."

She did not immediately provide specific examples of Republicans being asked for similar help. A representative from the Republican National Committee did not respond to a request for comment.

WikiLeaks has not similarly targeted Republican officials in their release of private communications.

The WikiLeaks communications showed an email chain involving several officials at the Democratic National Committee that discussed Blitzer interviewing Trump in April on the eve of a foreign policy address. It wasn't clear who at CNN had communicat-

ed the request. The interview was subsequently cancelled.

The email chain had 17 suggested questions, including, "Would you order U.S. troops to withdraw from South Korea, and if so, how quickly?" and "Which international organizations should the United States be a member of?"

Another April email, from DNC research director Lauren Dillon to five colleagues titled "Cruz on CNN," said

that "CNN is looking for questions. Please send some topical/interesting ones."

Frank Sesno, a former CNN Washington bureau chief and now a professor at George Washington University, said that when he was working as a journalist, he would ask political opponents for similar help.

"When doing research for an interview, you go behind enemy lines to both learn what

the opposition is thinking and what the pressure points might be," Sesno said. "If they were colluding with them or trading some kind of favors, that would be different."

For example, giving a candidate questions that they would be asked in an interview or suggesting they could get easy treatment in return for some help would be wrong, he said.

Similarly, media ethicist Kelly McBride at the Poynter

Institute said she had no problem with the practice, as long as CNN is doing the same for others—like asking the Trump campaign for suggestions when interviewing Clinton.

"The side that is working against a candidate has targeted a certain group of voters and is pushing a specific message to these voters," McBride said. "As a journalist, you want to speak to these voters in a way that is informed and reasonable."

## The evolution of Amy Adams on view in 'Arrival,' 'Nocturnal'

**TORONTO** (AP)—For a time, Amy Adams, a former chorus girl from Colorado, was known for her princesses and country girls: sweet and sunny characters that helped make Adams a star.

"I call them the innocents—like Picasso, my 'innocent period,'" Adams says, chuckling. "But the naivete or anything that I brought to a role, I didn't feel trapped by it. I thought each of them, saw the world in a different way. I was perplexed that people saw me in that way but I understood it. I didn't know when or how that would change, but I knew it needed to in order for me to evolve as an actress."

That evolution has been going on for some time, from the forceful restraint of her performances in "Doubt" and "The Master" to more unbridled outings in a pair of David O. Russell films, "The Fighter" and "American Hustle." At 42, she is already a five-time Oscar nominee. But this fall, in a pair of intelligent, layered performances, Adams' expanding range and growing complexity has never been more on view.

In Denis Villeneuve's "Arrival," she stars as a linguist tasked by the government with communicating with newly landed aliens whose sleek, orb-like ships are mys-

teriously hovering just off the ground. The movie, which opens Friday, is thick with a "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" atmosphere and resonant—through Adams' performance—with deeper emotions than your average sci-fi film.

Adams also stars in Tom Ford's "Nocturnal Animals" (out Nov. 18), as a Manhattan gallerist trapped in an unhappy marriage. When a novel written by her first husband (Jake Gyllenhaal) arrives, she's teleported into a fictional world. The book's story, a

bloody thriller, is heavy with personal subtext.

"Both of these characters come to a crossroads and I feel like I'm at a bit of a crossroads," Adams reflected in an interview in September at the Toronto International Film Festival, where both films played.

"It's being a mom and entering my 40s and looking at things in a different way, a way that has been really awesome," Adams said of her shift. "I feel really happy about the changes that have happened internally. I feel like these films helped that happen."

But those changes, she says, are mostly about finding a balance between her career and her family life. She and husband Darren Le Gallo have a six-year-old daughter. Though spelling out the connection would give too much away, motherhood was an especially powerful influence on "Arrival." Adams agreed to do the film within 24 hours of being sent the script.

"Every time I start talking about my daughter in relationship to 'Arrival,' it goes straight to tears," says Adams. "My husband saw the film before I did and he couldn't talk to me for a while."

Adams' range as an actress is a sneaky kind. There are no tales of tortured transfor-

mations. She simply keeps showing up in role after role, fully inhabiting a character with warmth and smarts while, to varying degrees, remaining herself.

Working with her acting coach, Warner Loughlin, Adams builds the essence of a character in advance of shooting so that she can be free and reactive on set. That was especially necessary in both "Arrival" and "Nocturnal Animals" because both films call on her to express much without speaking. In the latter, she's often just reading.

"I have to be active and I have to drive a sort of emotional core through the movie," says Adams, "but yet I'm very much reactive at the same time. In 'Nocturnal Animals,' I was alone a lot."

Villeneuve, the Quebec director of "Sicario" and "Prisoners," says he needed a strong actress who could emote a lot while often acting against a tennis ball.

"I knew that the movie would be on her shoulders," says Villeneuve. "I wanted someone who you could read what was she was going through without words. The movie is Amy Adams, to me."

Ford, the fashion designer whose previous film, "A Single Man," pursued Adams for some of the same qualities.



In this Oct. 24, 2016 file photo, Amy Adams arrives at the 23rd annual ELLE Women in Hollywood Awards in Los Angeles.

# Madonna plays surprise concert in park for Hillary Clinton

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Madonna belted out some of her biggest hits on Monday night as she treated people in the city to a surprise outdoor concert in support of Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton.

About 300 people jammed into Washington Square Park, in the heart of Manhattan, to watch the pop singer perform “Express Yourself,” “Don’t Tell Me,” “Imagine,” “Like a Prayer” and “If I Had a Hammer” while they sang along.

Madonna opened the 30-minute performance by urging the crowd to vote on Tuesday.

“This is a concert that is about unifying us, and it’s about keeping America great, not making America great

again,” Madonna said. “Tomorrow we’re going to keep America great. We’re going to elect a president that does not discriminate.”

As she finished the concert, she again urged the growing crowd to go to the polls and vote for Clinton.

“New York! Tomorrow is the big day. Are you listening?” She said. “Do we want Donald Trump to be president?”

“No!” the crowd roared back.

“Do we need Hillary Clinton?”

“Yes!”

Some in the crowd were just as excited to vote for Clinton as they were to see a Madonna performance.

“It’s really exciting the



AP  
Madonna campaigns for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton during a surprise performance at Washington Square Park in New York, Monday, Nov. 7, 2016.

low “Hillary” pin, the election of Clinton has been a long time coming.

“I’ve been a Hillary fan since I was in elementary school,” Bellis said. “Now I have three kids, and I think far and away she has the best chance of creating the kind of world I want them to have.”

With just hours before Election Day, Clinton and Trump, the Republican presidential nominee, continued to crisscross the battleground states in an effort to secure every last vote.

enthusiasm to elect the first woman president, to elect a president who will fight for LGBT rights, fight for women’s rights and to move America forward,” said Zach Baum, a 23-year-old from Long Island. “It’s really a choice

about who we are as a nation.”

For Sara Bellis, a 34-year-old stay-at-home mom from the Bronx who wore a yellow

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Police clear mall after crowd gathers for rapper, NBA player

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.** (AP)—Police have evacuated a mall near Boston after a large crowd gathered for an event featuring a rapper and a pro basketball player. Cambridge police say a crowd of more than 1,000 people became unruly at the CambridgeSide Galleria mall after arriving for a Monday event with the rapper Desiigner and Boston Celtics forward Jaylen Brown, who were scheduled to meet fans at the Champs Sports store. Police from nearby departments were called to the scene to help clear the mall. Police say pepper spray was used to help control the crowd. Cambridge police say they’re working to disperse the crowd and encourage drivers to avoid the area until it clears. They haven’t said whether any arrests were made.

### Justin Bieber gives impromptu performance at Toronto bar

**TORONTO** (AP)—Pop star Justin Bieber tickled the ivories in an impromptu free performance at a Toronto bar. The Canadian-born Bieber visited the Fifth Pubhouse by himself last Friday where he ordered a whiskey and coke at the bar while watching the Toronto Raptors basketball game. The bar’s spokeswoman Ivy Ho said in an email Monday that Bieber suddenly sat down at the piano and performed several songs, including his hit “Sorry.” She also emailed photos showing Bieber sitting at the piano and the bar, Bieber wasn’t paid for his performance, but his bar tab was covered, Ho said. “Covering the tab was really the least we can do as he was being so gracious. His incredible live performance on the piano and down to earth in-

teraction with our customers and staff were the highlights of the night,” Ho said.

Ho said Bieber also autographed a picture of himself on the bar’s Wall of Great Canadians, joking that the photo should be updated because it shows a young mop-haired Bieber.

### Thien wins Giller Prize for ‘Do Not Say We Have Nothing’

**TORONTO** (AP)—Madeleine Thien has won the Scotiabank Giller Prize for her novel “Do Not Say We Have Nothing.” The win caps many accolades for the Canadian writer, who was shortlisted for the prestigious Man Booker Prize and recently received Canada’s Governor General’s Literary Award for fiction. “Do Not Say We Have Nothing” is set in China before, during and after the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests. It’s about Chinese musicians who

are studying Western classical music in the 1960s, and explores the revolution that occurred under Mao Zedong. The \$100,000 Canadian dollar (\$75,000) Giller prize honors the best in Canadian fiction. Past winners have included Margaret Atwood, Mordecai Richler and Alice Munro. The Giller was created in 1994 by businessman Jack Rabinovitch in memory of his late wife, literary journalist Doris Giller.

### The Hills’ star Audrina Patridge marries BMX rider

**HONOLULU** (AP)—Reality star Audrina Patridge has tied the knot in Hawaii with her longtime boyfriend, BMX rider Corey Bohan. E! News has released photos of the ceremony, which it reports took place Saturday in a botanical garden overlooking the ocean. E! says about 100 people attended the wedding.

Patridge and Bohan have a daughter, Kirra Max, who was born in June. The 31-year-old Patridge appeared on MTV’s “The Hills” for six seasons and was a contestant on the 11th season of ABC’s “Dancing with the Stars.”

### Garth Brooks has something to say to ‘The Voice’ contestants

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Garth Brooks is getting into the advice business. NBC said Monday that Brooks will be a key adviser on “The Voice” next week, mentoring the show’s top 12 contestants. Brooks, back in music after a 13-year break, was honored as Entertainer of the Year at the recent Country Music Association Awards. He’s on an extended world tour with his wife, Trisha Yearwood. Brooks will appear on the Monday, Nov. 14, episode of “The Voice.”

### Chance the Rapper leads parade to Chicago polling site

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Chance the Rapper has led hundreds of people from a concert he headlined through Chicago’s business district and to an early voting site. Chance and other entertainers performed Monday afternoon at Petrillo Music Shell in Grant Park. The event sponsored by his nonprofit group Social Works was geared toward millennial voters, who have been crucial in recent elections. Afterward, Chance led the crowd through rush-hour traffic to the voting site, where a long line of voters was already waiting to cast ballots. Chance went inside the polling place and voted.

Officials said anyone in line by 7 p.m. local time would be allowed to vote. Illinois’ State Board of Elections says nearly 1.3 million people cast in-person early ballots through Sunday, surpassing turnout in previous presidential contests.

## Boyfriend consumed by video games reveals himself a loser

**D**EAR ABBY: I have been dating “Ian” for seven months. We met at work, and my friends convinced me to go out with him. I thought he was a nice guy, just shy. Now that we’ve been dating, I realize that’s not the case.

Ian plays video games A LOT. They consume his life. He gets so aggravated that he slams buttons and curses incessantly. My nerves can’t handle hearing it. I have anxiety issues, and when he does it, I nearly have a panic attack. When I tell him it’s just a game, he won’t listen.

He is also critical of me. It’s mostly about my weight, but he also tells me I’m horrible and stupid. He complains about the way I play video games, my cooking, etc. Sometimes he loses his temper and snaps at me. He has slapped me a few times.

He’s never intimate with me, but I know he’s straight because he watches porn when he thinks I’m asleep. We pretty much lead separate lives, but he talks about us getting our own place. We no longer work at the same company. I have a part-time job and go to school full time, but he won’t even look for a job.

Part of me wants to end it. But this is my first real relationship, and I’m not sure if I can do any better. Help!

CONFLICTED IN VIRGINIA

**DEAR CONFLICTED:** End it NOW! You are looking at this the wrong way. From where I sit, it would be practically impossible for you to have a worse relationship than this one. Ian is immature, emotionally and physically abusive and unemployed. Men who care about women don’t treat them the way he treats you.

**Ian should not move anywhere with you. If he does, you will have a heck of a time getting this freeloader out. Not only that, you won’t be able to find anyone else because it will appear that you’re already “involved.”**

**DEAR ABBY:** I hear people all around me talk about their grandkids and the great times they have. I have grandkids, too, but I don’t know how to be a grandmother. My mother didn’t have the skill, and I don’t know what to do.

I’m in my early 50s, and I’m trying to do things now that I didn’t get to do when I was young. I raised my kids. Am I supposed to spend all my time with them? I’m not sure I even want to. Does that make me selfish?

LOST GRANDMA IN VIRGINIA

DEAR LOST GRANDMA: You don’t have to spend

**DEAR ABBY**  
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



“all” your time with your grandchildren. You should, however, see them every few weeks if possible so you can get to know each other.

Because you’re not sure how to do that, ask their parents and some of your friends for suggestions on how to entertain them. It could be as simple as taking them to a movie, attending some of their school or sporting events, baking cookies together or taking them to a park during an afternoon.

To order “How to Write Letters for All Occasions,” send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.



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Saipan Tribune

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Mathematics or Engineering, any field (may be foreign equivalent) & 1 year experience as a high school math teacher. Teach algebra, geometry, pre-calculus & other math classes to high school students in private school.

Send CV to P.O. Box 500006, Saipan,  
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Verification of qualifications required.

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Science Teacher  
w/ Mount Carmel School, Inc. in  
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, CNMI.

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Biology, Chemistry or Physics (may be foreign equivalent) & 1 year experience as a high school biology, chemistry or physics teacher. Teaches biology, chemistry, physics, & other science classes to high school students in private school.

Send CV to P.O. Box 500006, Saipan,  
MP 96950 or email to  
galvin.deleonguerrero@gmail.com.  
Verification of qualifications required.

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Attorney for Petitioner Norman Tenorio

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	) CIVIL ACTION NO. 97-1015
) NOTICE OF MOTION AND HEARING	)
IN RE THE ESTATE OF JOAQUIN CEPEDA LEON GUERRERO,	)
Decedent.	)
	)

## NOTICE OF MOTION AND HEARING

TO HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JOAQUIN CEPEDA LEON GUERRERO: DOLORES LEON GUERRERO, JOSE CEPEDA LEON GUERRERO, VICENTE LEON GUERRERO, LORINDA LEON GUERRERO CASTRO, WILFRED LEON GUERRERO, JENNIFER LEON GUERRERO, ERIC C. CRUZ, ERICA C. CRUZ, and DONOVAN C. CRUZ.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on November 17, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. at the Superior Court of the Northern Marianas Islands on Saipan, Petitioner Norman Tenorio will and hereby does move the Court to reopen the Estate in the above-entitled matter and to issue Letters of Administration to Lorinda Leon Guerrero Castro and to appoint Ms. Castro as successor personal representative. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court

## PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

### INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB17-OGM-019

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 22, 2016 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

### "PURCHASE OF FORTY (40) BRUSH CUTTERS, FOR THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT & STATE CLEARINGHOUSE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIA SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.  
ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON  
DIRECTOR, P&S

Saipan Adventures, Inc. invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

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Interested applicants may send their resumes to savi\_recruitment@tanholdings.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than November 22, 2016. Applications for Employment are available at the Front Office of Century Tours Inc. located on the Ground Floor of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Applicants must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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### CAFÉ AND BAR OPERATOR

MP HOLDINGS IS SEEKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI) FROM EXPERIENCED CAFÉ AND BAR OPERATORS TO LEASE AND OPERATE A CAFÉ AND BAR AT A NEW LOCATION ON MIDDLE ROAD CHALAN LAU LAU SAIPAN.

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# Stephen Curry hits NBA-record 13 3-pointers



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry set an NBA record with 13 3-pointers—one game after missing all his long-range attempts for the first time in two years—and the Golden State Warriors beat the winless New Orleans Pelicans 116-106 on Monday night.

Curry finished with 46 points, three days after his league-record streak of 157 games with at least one 3 was snapped when he went 0 for 10 on 3-point tries in a 117-97 road loss to the Los Angeles Lakers.

This time, the two-time reigning NBA MVP shot 13 of 17 from beyond the arc in his seventh career game with double digit 3s. He broke the mark with 2:23 to go and bobbed his head as the crowd roared.

The star guard shared the previous record of 12 with Kobe Bryant and Donyell Marshall.

Curry shot 16 for 26 overall in his first 40-point performance this season after leading the NBA with 13 such games last season. Fans enjoyed every minute of it, chanting "M-V-P! M-V-P!"

Klay Thompson added 24 points as the Splash Brothers looked far more in sync from long range at last.

Kevin Durant added 22 for the Warriors.

Anthony Davis had 33 points and 13 rebounds for New Orleans (0-7), which along with the 76ers (0-6) are the NBA's lone teams still without a victory. Davis gave the Pelicans a 73-72 lead on a turnaround hook shot with 4:14 left in the third quarter.

Davis had 45 points, 17 rebounds, three assists, two steals and two blocks in the teams' initial matchup on Oct. 28.

Draymond Green had his

second double-double with 12 rebounds and 11 assists for the Warriors, who were back at Oracle Arena after they embarrassed the Thunder 122-96 there in Durant's first game against his former team last Thursday.

Thompson—2 for 10 against the Lakers from 3-point range, a combined 0 of 13 vs. Phoenix and Portland and 9 of 46 overall (19.6 percent) this season coming in—missed his first three attempts before hitting from the baseline late in the second quarter as the sellout crowd went crazy.

Playing for the first time since Friday, New Orleans had lost its previous two games in overtime by a combined seven points. Coached by former Warriors top assistant Alvin Gentry, the Pelicans hung tough with a team that's an early title favorite, but lost its fifth straight to Golden State.

Curry knocked down his first 3-point attempt at the 7:29 mark of the first quarter. He received a technical with 1:45 left in the third for arguing he was fouled by Davis on a 3-point attempt.

## Clippers 114, Pistons 80

In Los Angeles, Chris Paul scored 24 points and made five of the Clippers' season-high 13 3-pointers in their 11th consecutive victory over Detroit.

Andre Drummond had 15 points and 13 rebounds to lead Detroit, which shot 37 percent and made just 4 of 12 3-point attempts in its worst loss of the young season.

J.J. Redick added 20 points, including three 3-pointers and all five of his free throws for the Clippers, who shot 54 percent for the game. Blake Griffin just missed a triple-double.

Washington's John Wall

with 13 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists.

Paul made 8 of 10 field goals, 3 of 4 free throws and had eight assists and six rebounds for the Clippers in a game featuring the NBA's two top-ranked defenses.

## Rockets 114, Wizards 106

In Washington, James Harden set aside a rough first quarter to finish with 32 points and 15 assists to lead Houston.

Washington's John Wall

broke the franchise record for career assists before getting ejected in the final minute.

Harden shot just 1 for 4 and had five turnovers in the opening period, which ended with Washington ahead 30-23. But he got more and more involved at the offensive end and scored eight consecutive Houston points in one stretch of the fourth quarter, including half of a 12-0 run that gave the Rockets a 106-95 lead with a little more than 3 1/2 minutes left.

This was his fourth consecutive game with at least 30 points and 10 assists for Harden, who entered the day leading the NBA in assists at 12.3 per game and fourth in scoring average at 31.5 points.

## Hornets 122, Pacers 100

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Kemba Walker had 24 points and 10 assists to help Charlotte to their best start in franchise history.

The Hornets (5-1) scored on their first 12 possessions and led by as many as 21 points in the first quarter.

Charlotte tied a 23-year franchise record with 75 points in the first half on 56.5 percent shooting. The team's starters were 17 of 25 from the field as the Hornets built a 20-point halftime lead.

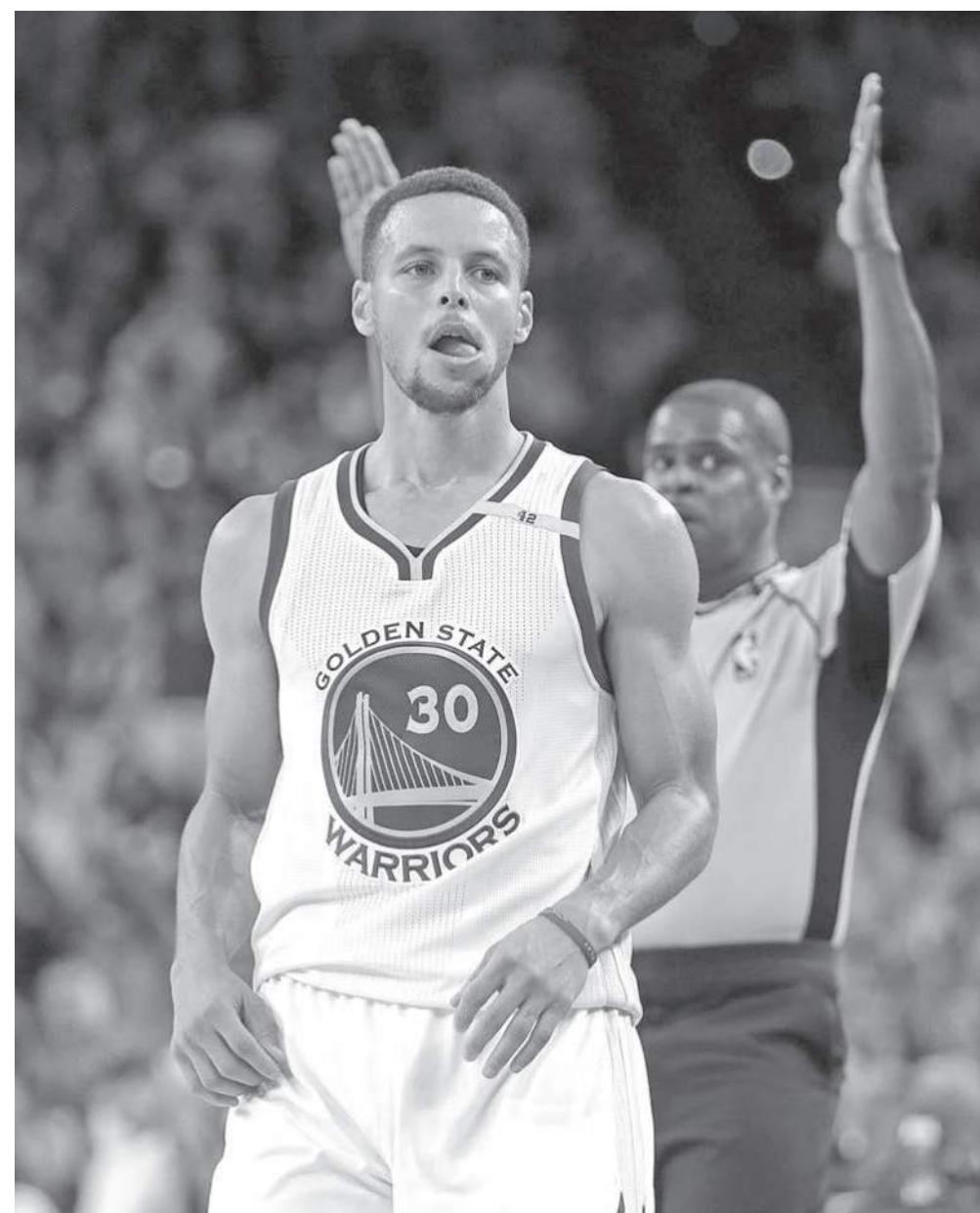
Charlotte scored 35 points off 18 Indiana turnovers.

Spencer Hawes had 13 points and 13 rebounds and Cody Zeller chipped in with 13 points.

C.J. Miles led the Pacers with 23 points, while Al Jefferson had 12 points and nine rebounds in his return to Charlotte.

## Jazz 109, 76ers 84

In Philadelphia, Derrick Favors had 16 points and 14 rebounds and Rodney Hood scored 18 points to lead Utah over win-



AP

Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry looks at the New Orleans Pelican bench after scoring during the second half of an NBA basketball game Monday, Nov. 7, 2016, in Oakland, Calif.

less Philadelphia.

Gordon Hayward scored 20 points in the second game of his return since he broke his right ring finger in training camp. He led the team in scoring last season, averaging nearly 20 points per game.

The Jazz won their second straight game on the road and cruised against a Sixers team again mired at the bottom of the NBA standings. The Sixers have lost 43 straight games in October and November. The Sixers last won a game in either of those two months on Nov. 22, 2013, against Milwaukee.

The Sixers are 0-6 for the third straight season and have lost 10 straight dating to last season.

Jahlil Okafor led the Sixers with 15 points.

## Thunder 97, Heat 85

In Oklahoma City, Enes Kanter had 24 points and 10 rebounds to lead Oklahoma City.

Kanter made 10 of 12 shots in 21 minutes off the bench. Victor Oladipo scored 17 points, rookie Domantas Sabonis had a season-high 15 to go with 10 rebounds, and Russell Westbrook added 14 points and 11 assists for the Thunder. Oklahoma City improved to 6-1, the best seven-game start for the franchise since moving to Oklahoma City in 2008.

Miami's Hassan Whiteside, who entered averaging 20 points and 14.2 rebounds, finished with five points on 1-for-9 shooting and 12 rebounds.

James Johnson led Miami with 18 points. The Heat shot just 36.9 percent.

## Bulls 112, Magic 80

In Chicago, Jimmy Butler scored 20 points and Taj Gibson had 16 points and 11 rebounds for Chicago.

Dwyane Wade scored 16 points and Doug McDermott finished with 11 for Chicago, which had dropped three straight. Wade went 7 for 12 from the field in 25 minutes.

Orlando had won three straight, but it played listless defense as Chicago pulled away in the third quarter. Aaron Gordon scored 15 points for the Magic, and Evan Fournier added 13 on 6-for-12 shooting.

Butler was a perfect 10 for 10 as the Bulls went 25 for 31 at the free throw line, compared to 5 for 6 for the Magic.

## Mark Cuban: Dispute with ESPN rooted in automated content

**DALLAS** (AP)—Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban says his decision to revoke the credentials of two ESPN writers who cover his team was driven partly by concern that automated game reports could eventually replace human-generated content.

Cuban said Monday that he banned Marc Stein and Tim MacMahon from Mavericks home games to bring attention to the issue of companies using automation in sports coverage.

The Associated Press, in a partnership with Automated Insights, produces automated stories on minor league baseball but does not use the technology for most of its sports coverage. The AP

has at least one reporter at all games in the four major professional sports and most major college football and basketball games.

"Maybe I will be wrong but I see a direct path from the trends in coverage of games we are seeing over the last couple years to the automation of reporting on games and the curation of related content," Cuban wrote in an email to the AP. "This isn't a knock on wire services or their reporters. They are valued and valuable in sports coverage."

Cuban said he was responding to what he considers a disturbing trend of reporters being replaced by machines.

"While it may seem counterintuitive to ban someone from covering us as a way of stopping automation, it really was my only option," Cuban

said. "As is evident by the AP partnership with Automated Insights, it's not if but when."

ESPN spokesman Josh Krulewitz declined to comment on Cuban's claims, referring to a statement Sunday when the network said it was "committed to thoroughly covering the Mavs and the NBA." A league spokesman didn't return a message seeking comment Monday.

MacMahon has covered the Mavericks primarily for several years but has spent more time in other cities this season. Stein joined ESPN as a national NBA writer in 2000 after previously covering the Mavericks for the Dallas newspaper. Both reporters are based in Dallas.

# Graham catches 2 TDs, Seahawks hold off Bills, 31-25



**S E A T T L E**  
(AP)—Jimmy Graham's first one-handed catch was special. His second was even better.

And that doesn't even mention his open-field hurdle of a defensive back.

Graham needed just one hand to catch two first-half touchdown passes from Russell Wilson, and the Seattle Seahawks held off a late rally for a 31-25 win over the Buffalo Bills on Monday night.

"We talked this week if we get a favorable matchup, throw it," Graham said. "It's one of those things in the National Football League these windows are so small that sometimes when a guy is on you, you just have to throw it up."

Seattle won its 11th straight Monday night game behind a huge game from its tight end. Still less than a year removed from a major knee injury, Graham used his right arm to catch a 17-yard touchdown from Wilson on the first play of the second quarter and later used the same arm to cradle an 18-yard TD pass in the final moments of the first half.

But the Seahawks had to hold on in the final seconds as Buffalo quarterback Tyrod Taylor led the Bills inside the Seattle 10 in the final seconds. Taylor was sacked by Cliff Avril on third-and-goal from the 8 and on fourth-and-goal Taylor's pass into the end zone fell incomplete.

Buffalo would not have needed a touchdown if not for mistakes by the officiating crew at the end of the first half that cost the Bills a chance at a shorter field goal. Dan Carpenter eventually missed a 54-yard attempt on the final play of the half, only after Seattle's Richard Sherman got away with an unnecessary roughness penalty that wasn't called and a delay of game caused in part by the officiating crew standing over the ball.

NFL head of officiating Dean Blandino tweeted during the game that Walt Anderson's crew did not make the correct call.

"Ridiculous.... From an officiating stand point, I think they can do better than that," Bills coach Rex Ryan said.

Anderson said the play was being "shut down" because Sherman was unabated to the kicker.

"I just didn't feel like the actions and the contact, because we were shutting the play down, warranted a foul (for roughing)," Anderson said.

Graham caught all eight of his targets for 103 yards. It was his third 100-yard receiving game of the season. Wilson was 20 of 26 passing for 282 yards.

Wilson and Christine Mi-



Seattle Seahawks defensive end Damontre Moore, left, trades jerseys with Buffalo Bills wide receiver Justin Hunter, right, after an NFL football game, Monday, Nov. 7, 2016, in Seattle.

left to set up a 48-yard attempt, but the Bills were penalized for delay of game even with the umpire standing over the ball. Carpenter's 54-yard attempt on the final play was wide right.

Seattle coach Pete Carroll said he talked with Blandino immediately after the game to get an explanation.

## PERFECT START

Buffalo got a dream start, with Jerry Hughes blocking a punt after Seattle went three-and-out to open the game and Taylor running untouched for a 3-yard TD on the next play for a quick 7-0 lead. It was Buffalo's first blocked punt since 2014.

## TOP DEFENSE?

Buffalo scored on its first three possessions before Seattle finally forced a punt midway through the second quarter. That snapped a string of nine straight possessions with opponents scoring on Seattle's defense.

## INJURIES

Buffalo center Eric Wood was carted off the field after Gil lislee's TD run with a right ankle injury. Wood was rolled up blocking on the play. Ryan announced after the game it was a broken leg. Ryan Groy took over at center.

chael both added 3-yard touchdowns runs, but Seattle's run game was again absent. The Seahawks attempted just 12 running plays and wide receiver Tyler Lockett was Seattle's leading rusher taking a fly sweep 13 yards.

Buffalo lost its third straight to drop below .500, but it wasn't due to its quarterback. Taylor was outstanding,

nearly matching Wilson's performance, except for one miscommunication with a wide receiver that led to Sherman's end zone interception in the third quarter. Taylor threw for 289 yards. He kept plays alive with his legs and made smart reads and smart throws.

Robert Woods was his favorite target with 10 catches for a career-high 162 yards.

"He played lights out," Bills running back LeSean McCoy said of Taylor. "Just everything, the small things, play actions, getting the ball out of his hand, extending plays. He was lights out."

### KICKING THE CALL

The final seconds of the first half were a mess.

Carpenter lined up for a 53-

yard field goal with 3 seconds left. Sherman jumped offside and crashed hard into Carpenter, blocking the kick. Sherman was flagged for offside and Carpenter appeared to be hurt bringing trainers on the field.

Because the trainers took the field, Carpenter had to leave for one play. Buffalo spiked the ball with 1 second

tender. Chicago (2-6) is in last, but both their wins have come against division opponents.

Daniels hopes the anger and frustration of a second straight close loss becomes evident in how the Packers respond against Tennessee.

"It's got to be a violent one. It has to be noticeable, like this team is" angry, Daniels said. "That's what it's got to be when you step on to that field. It has to be noticeable, and if it's not then we're not getting it done."

**NOTES:** LB Clay Matthews (hamstring) missed a second straight game after suffering a setback on Friday, McCarthy said. ... RB James Starks (knee) had a good week of limited practice and could be in line for more work this week, according to the coach. ... The Packers signed rookie FB Joe Kerridge from their practice squad on Monday and released S Jermaine Whitehead.

Detroit (5-4) is surging with four wins in their last five games, though there are questions about whether the Lions are a true playoff con-

## In unusual spot at 4-4, Packers face pivotal road stretch

**GREEN BAY, Wis.** (AP)—Mike Daniels' angry voice could be heard from a far-off corner of the Packers locker room in the bitter minutes following a disheartening loss to Indianapolis.

A .500 record doesn't cut it in Green Bay, not for a team with perennial Super Bowl aspirations.

On Monday, after the Packers (4-4) dissected their 31-26 defeat to the Colts, Daniels spoke with intensity that matched his no holds barred-style of play.

"Nobody in this locker room should go home and have a good night's rest tonight or for the rest of this week. That's flat out," Daniels said when asked about if the Packers can turn things around. The barrel-chested defensive tackle agreed with teammate Julius Peppers' assessment that it can be done.

"I feel like we have people in this locker room, this whole

locker room, that nobody's going to be getting any good sleep tonight," Daniels said.

Green Bay is at .500 after eight games for the first time since 2009. That year, the Packers finished 7-1 to make the playoffs as an NFC wild card.

This season, the Packers must play five of their last eight games on the road, starting with three straight trips in a stretch that could define their season. Green Bay goes to Tennessee next weekend, followed by night games at Washington and Philadelphia.

The Packers have had injuries hit primarily two positions this season: running back and cornerback. The injuries at running back, in particular, have forced the Packers to make major adjustments. Regardless of depth concerns, the Packers are looking to get off to better starts. They're also looking for more consistency.

Green Bay allowed a 99-

yard touchdown return on the opening kickoff to Jordan Todman, a jolt that left the Packers playing catch-up the rest of the day.

It wasn't until the fourth quarter that the Packers regained momentum with two quick touchdowns to cut into an 18-point deficit with 9:35 left.

But Green Bay came up short. A few players, including quarterback Aaron Rodgers, spoke about a lack of energy earlier in the game.

"We didn't play with enough juice tonight, especially in that first half," right tackle Bryan Bulaga said after the game. "We've got to find a way to right it, come in (Monday) clean it up, and keep working at it and getting better."

The Packers weren't as sharp as coach Mike McCarthy would like them to be when the going gets rough. In some situations, that might mean playing with a little more speed; in others, it could mean

getting a little more physical.

Whatever the root of the issues, the Packers must fix the problems quickly. Leadership is not one of them.

"I tell you what, you know I think our players did a good job of leadership," McCarthy said. "There (are) a lot of things that's said in the locker room, particularly at halftime, particularly after the game. A big focus of my message was about energy."

The team, McCarthy said, "played with a lot of energy, but we were not clean in a number of different situations and (Indianapolis) took advantage of it."

The good news for Green Bay is that no team has pulled away in the NFC North. Minnesota (5-3) remains in first but has lost three straight.

Detroit (5-4) is surging with four wins in their last five games, though there are questions about whether the Lions are a true playoff con-

# Schmidt standing out in UFO caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Best Sunshine International-Blue Eagle's Douglas Schmidt is leading two categories in the ongoing 2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League.

The former Palau National Team player is ahead in the assists and steals departments. In five games, he has collected 16 assists for an average of 3.2 per match. Schmidt's quick hands and good ball anticipation resulted to a league-best 25 steals or an average of 5 per game. The BSI-Blue Eagle gunner could have topped the scoring division, too had he not missed one game (in their loss to Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani).

James Villacrusis of PC Bargain has scored the most points so far in the league with his 156 in six games, while Schmidt has collected 137. If the average would be the basis for determining the top scorer at the halfway mark of the league, Schmidt would be up with his 27.4 average in five matches. Villacrusis, in six games, averaged 26 points.

Meanwhile, Cavite's Preston Basa, Save More's Sid Quan, and Armatech's Jerome Malasarte are on top of the three other categories.

Basa buried 26 triples in



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Best Sunshine International-Blue Eagle's Douglas Schmidt, left, reaches in to steal the ball from PC Bargain's Tito Alano during their game in the UFO caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

five games to average 5.2 per match, while Quan collared 56, also after five games, to average in double figures (11.2). Malasarte, on the other hand, played only two matches for Armatech/MDX and recorded three blocks.

Meanwhile, the two games

scheduled yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium were cancelled and will be played on a later date.

Stephen's Pawnshop was set to duel 8th Division in the first match last night, while the second game was to pit Armatech against Save More, but both

tiffs were called off as the Ada Gym was used by San Jose residents to cast their votes.

Action in the nine-team league will resume tomorrow with Cavite taking on Save More in the first match at 6:30pm and Stephen's Pawnshop battling Maplas in the 8pm match.



## SWIMMERS

From Page 28

one from SSC gained PBTs.

Villacrusis got his second PBT as his 1:19.77 eclipsed his previous mark of 1:21.57. Tsunami Saipan's Nanaka Watanabe clocked in 1:31.47 (from 1:31.96), Asaka Litulumar registered 1:38.93 (from 1:43.56), and Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero logged 1:33.94 (1:42.48) for a good start in the weekend tournament.

The 16-year-old Villacrusis made it three in a row when his 1:20.59 in the 100m backstroke shattered his previous PBT of 1:21.53. Another SSC member, Jinnosuke Suzuki,

got the second mark in the same race after timing in at 1:19.23, nearly more than 10 seconds faster than his old PBT of 1:29.34.

Jinnosuke also raced in the 50m butterfly and recorded a PBT, too with his 35.09 seconds (from 35.53 seconds). He was one of only five swimmers who earned PBTs in the Event 4, duplicating the achievements of fellow SSC member Jinie Thompson (44.74 seconds/from 45.60) and Tsunami Saipan's Rei Sekiguchi (45.90/from 47.79), Ashley Dangol (39.20/from 39.47), and Nelson Batallones (32.48/from 32.63).

In the fifth event of the

day—the 50m breaststroke—nine Tsunami Saipan swimmers, three from SSC, and one from Dolphin Club posted new PBTs. Tsunami Saipan's side was led by Aika Watanabe (37.78 seconds/from 38.09) and followed by Hans Xu (39.26 seconds/from 39.47), Nanaka Watanabe (42.43/from 43.47), Ayumi Obligacion (45.19/46.71), Shoko Litulumar (49.45/from 54.48), Kouki Watanabe (53.16/from 1:07.39), Kian Pajarillaga (59.35/from 1:01.75), Kevin Guerrero (1:00.60/from 1:02.19), and Michelle Chen (1:09.74).

SSC's PBT getters, on the other hand, include siblings Susana (56.89 sec-

onds/from 1:00.58), and Richard Villagomez (47.76/from 48.25) and Takeru Jim (1:00.75/from 1:07.15). Samantha Liske-Clarke was the lone Dolphin Club to mark a PBT with her 58.67 seconds (from 1:30.00).

Meanwhile, five more events were scheduled in the NMISF Meet 2 and results will be reported on *Saipan Tribune* later this week.

## RANGAMAR

From Page 28

Alvarez via Kimura choke, while Okiyama defeated Rangamar in the other semis tiff. Roman went on to down Rangamar in the battle for third place, 9-0, to make it to the podium.

In the welterweight division, Masga gave Shane a dose of his own medicine as the former also used a Kimura choke on the latter to win their title duel. Before stopping Shane, Masga seemed headed for a convincing win in the finale as he led, 15-0. Stanley Iakopo joined Masga and Shane in the Top 3 after shutting down youngster Joel Subang in their consolation bout, 6-0.

In the flyweight division finals, it was an all Taitingfong show as seen in his 12-2 victory over Andres Camacho. Velasquez rounded out the Top 3 in the class.

## MICRO

From Page 28

people to get involved."

With the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization races cancelled the next big event is the Timmy Would Go at the end of January where a Guam team would be competing. "The challenge here is to have more frequent races, especially for the youth," said Manning.

Torres, who also handed out plaques of appreciation, congratulated the MOC team for their historic feat. "Thank you very much for your efforts in representing the CNMI. Your achievement also helps the

promotion of our islands. We are hoping the sport would continue to grow."

House Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan) was also present in last week's presentation where he also represented Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan).

MOC's men's crew was also named the Northern Marianas Sports Association's Team of the Month winners for October. Jack Kabiriel, Vince Tudela, Jose Quan, Bobby Cruz, Angel San Nicolas, Billy Grow, Rich Salas, and James Lee joined Manning on the team.

Manning is also planning to

compile all times of the races from the different hosts of the Micro Cup in order to have an official record book. "The records are sporadic and we're trying to figure out the times from the different hosts. A lot of the records that exist are from the time when the CNMI hosted the Micro Cup. The same goes for Palau and Guam."

"My mission now is to get all the time records and compile it. So we could have this information available. We should be able to say if a team that performed well that their time is a new record. Right now, we don't have it. It will be hard but there are people who would help me."

# For pro athletes, voting can require extra effort

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI  
AP SPORTS WRITER

the grind of the NBA season doesn't cost them their say in the election.

"That's your way of showing power as an individual," Casey said. "We can protest, but the only way you fight stuff like that is through voting. Using your right to vote."

Many athletes have to rely on absentee ballots, either because they reside permanently in a different state than their team or because they are on the road during Election Day.

Several teams have taken steps to help. The NFL's Minnesota Vikings roll out a voter-education program every two years to ensure players, coaches and staff members understand voting practices in Minnesota.

"It's a right and everybody needs to exercise their rights," said Lester Bagley, Vikings executive vice president of legal affairs and stadium development. "Make it as easy as possible, answer the questions, get them the resources, connect them. It's every two years and it's a direct message to all staff, all players to participate and here's how to do it."

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	4	2	.667	—
Boston	3	3	.500	1
New York	2	4	.333	2
Brooklyn	2	4	.333	2
Philadelphia	0	6	.000	4

##### Western Conference Southwest Division

San Antonio	5	2	.714	—
Houston	4	3	.571	1
Memphis	3	4	.429	2
Dallas	1	5	.167	3½
New Orleans	0	7	.000	5

##### Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	6	1	.857	—
Utah	5	3	.625	1½
Portland	4	3	.571	2
Denver	3	3	.500	2½
Minnesota	1	4	.200	4

##### Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	6	1	.857	—
Golden State	5	2	.714	1
L.A. Lakers	4	3	.571	2
Sacramento	3	5	.375	3½
Phoenix	2	5	.286	4

### NFL STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN CONFERENCE

##### East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	7	1	0	.875	217	132
Miami	4	4	0	.500	173	182
Buffalo	4	5	0	.444	237	203
N.Y. Jets	3	6	0	.333	173	235

##### South

Atlanta	6	3	0	.667	305	259
New Orleans	4	4	0	.500	242	238
Tampa Bay	3	5	0	.375	180	232
Carolina	3	5	0	.375	204	206

##### North

Minnesota	5	3	0	.625	155	126
Detroit	5	4	0	.556	205	206
Green Bay	4	4	0	.500	198	187
Chicago	2	6	0	.250		

# CNMI U17 National Team Training Camp in Japan

## CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



CNMI U17 Boys National Team captain Ryan Relucio, right, shakes hand with his counterpart from Tamadaigaku Meguro High School before their training match in Japan last week.



CNMI U17 Boys National Team and Torelos players pose for a photo after their training match.



CNMI U17 Boys National Team members listen to pre-game instructions from coach Kiyoshi Sekiguchi.



CNMI U17 Boys National Team and Torelos players get ready for the next play.



CNMI U17 Boys National Team players pose at the façade of the Nissan Stadium.



CNMI U17 Boys National Team players perform warm-up drills before playing in one of their training matches in Tokyo.



NMIFA technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi talks to the players before their match against Tamadaigaku Meguro High School.



Members of the CNMI U17 Boys National Team gather for a photo before heading to the dugout for a pre-game session with their coaches.



Stephen Curry  
hits NBA-record  
13 3-pointers

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Graham  
catches 2 TDs,  
Seahawks hold  
off Bills, 31-25

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## 'Micro Cup sweep to generate more interest'

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

**M**arianas Outrigger Club coach Dino Manning is hoping their sweep in last month's Micro Cup 2016 in Palau would further generate more interest in the sport. MOC paddlers made history in Palau after winning the 500 and 1,500-meter sprints and the 12-mile long distance event at the Meyuns Seaplane Ramp in Koror.

It was the first time that a team from the CNMI or a team competing in the Micro Cup, for that matter, had swept all three events. "We've been told that no men's team swept

all the events. It is the first time that a men's team had done it in the 18-year history of the Micro Cup," said Manning.

MOC paddlers clocked 2:08.56 in the 500, 7:31.85



JON PEREZ

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, fifth left, and House Speaker Rafael Demapan, third right, join Marianas Outrigger Club members led by coach Dino Manning, fourth left, in last week's meeting at the Governor's Office Conference Room.

in the 1,500, and 1:28:16 in the grueling and lung-busting long distance race to beat three other CNMI squads and teams from Guam, Palau, and Hong Kong. Napu Outrigger Canoe Club, Marianas Pacific Paddlers, and Saipan Paddling Club are the other CNMI

teams.

"A lot were surprised with our performance. That's why we are hoping

**MICRO CUP**  
PALAU 2016

that our feat could further catapult the sport," said Manning after joining his other club members in meeting Gov.

Ralph DLG Torres where the CNMI's chief executive gave

all four canoe clubs

from the Commonwealth \$5,000 each.

"There's a big

growth in junior pad-

dling right now, especially a

lot of high school age kids.

People are looking at us after our performance. We can attract more junior paddlers who would be inspired and say to themselves, 'We could do the same if we train hard.' We hope it would motivate more

**See MICRO on Page 26**

## Rangamar is back, takes featherweight gold

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Derrick "El Peligro" Rangamar had a triumphant return to the mat after winning the featherweight championship in the Art of War 11: Submission Grappling/BJJ Tournament held last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rangamar, who missed the 2014 and 2015 editions of the same competition, topped the featherweight class after edging Guam and Spike 22's Kenji Okiyama, 2-0, in the finals. Rangamar advanced to the title match after dominating Nick Cruz in the semis, 11-0, while Okiyama followed suit after winning via rear-naked choke at the 3:10 mark of his five-minute Final Four bout against Lorenzo Attao. Cruz settled for the bronze medal.

The Saipan MMA fighter's victory in the featherweight finale denied Okiyama a second gold medal and ended Jesus Attao's two-year reign in the

division. Jesus moved up to the higher weight class (light-weight) of last weekend's tournament.

Earlier in the bantamweight finals, Okiyama whipped Jay "Tabi" Muna, 18-0, while Eden Dela Cruz won the consolation bout against

Kenny Velasquez, as the latter tapped out just 46 seconds into their match.

Meanwhile, Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez and Vince "The Clinch" Masga ruled the light-weight and welterweight classes, respectively, while Giovanni Taitingfong pre-

vailed in the flyweight division.

Shane handed Okiyama another bridesmaid finish after registering a 12-6 victory in the finals. Shane earned a final berth in the division after ousting Roman "Sonic Boom"

**See RANGAMAR on Page 26**



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Derrick Rangamar, top, grapples against Nick Cruz, during their semifinal bout in the featherweight class of last Saturday's Art of War 11: Submission Grappling/BJJ Tournament held at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
Saipan Swim Club's R.J. Pierce races in the 1,500m freestyle event of the NMISF Meet 2 held last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Swimmers who saw action in the 2016 Northern Mariana Island Swimming Federation Meet 2 earned 32 personal best times in the first five events scheduled in last Saturday's competition at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Saipan Swim Club's Kent Akimaru led the list of PBT getters in the NMISF Meet 2, as his 19:33.27 in Event 1—the 1,500 free-style—turned out to be the fastest in the field. Akimaru was the lone swimmer to complete the 30-lap event under 20 minutes and he broke his old record of

19:39.30.

Thirteen other swimmers finished the lung-busting race and seven of them also bagged PBTs. SSC's Jin Ju Thompson submitted 23.02.02 to surpass her 23:37.08, Taiga Sato posted 20.16.83 (from 21:10.04), Christian Villacrusis recorded 20:09.76 (20:31.21), and Salofi Welch timed in at 21:01.59 (22:06.56). Gemmilie Eugenio, Aeja Park, and Sonny Holandez of the fledgling Dolphin Club Saipan had the same feats after marking 43:55.96 (from 45:00.00), 41:43.54 (50:00.00), and 40:49.50 (45:00.00), respectively.

In Event 2—the 100m breaststroke—three Tsunami Saipan swimmers and

**See SWIMMERS on Page 26**